

## Soviets begin Czech withdrawal

PRESIDENT, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Twenty-two Soviet T-72 tanks left the northern border city of Bratislava on Monday, marking the start of the Red Army withdrawal from Czechoslovakia. A tank head struck up the "Intercontinental" — the Communist anthem — during a brief ceremony inside the Soviet base at Bratislava as the first complete column of Soviet troops left the territory of the former Czechoslovakia. The first Czechoslovakian tank to leave the country — heavily outnumbered by Soviet troops — drove slowly out of the base. "It is the start of a new era in the history of the Czech Republic," said Karel Kocbek, a spokesman of the opposition Civic Forum movement. "They were the tanks that they were here," he added. Kocbek's organization played a key role in the peaceful Velvet Revolution that ended more than four decades of Communist rule. The final withdrawal of the 75,000 Soviet troops stationed on Czechoslovak territory is to be completed by the end of next year.

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## Egyptian lawyers burn Israeli flag

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian lawyers protested Monday against Soviet Jews settling in the Israeli-occupied territories by trampling and then burning an improvised Israeli flag. Dozens of lawyers chanted slogans condemning the influx of settlers and calling for the expulsion of Israeli diplomats from Egypt at a demonstration in a conference room at Cairo's supreme court. In a letter published on Monday in the semi-official Al-Ahram newspaper, Soviet Ambassador to Egypt Gennadiy Zhuraviev accused Israel of using the migration to pressure the United States into stepping up aid to the Jewish state (see page 2).

## 13 killed in S. African violence

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Thirteen blacks, including four policemen, were killed in a series of attacks, most of which had political overtones, police and witnesses said Monday. The reports came the day after African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela urged a huge crowd to end the black-on-black fighting in the southeastern province of Natal that has claimed some 3,000 lives over the past four years.

## 5,000 Soviet Azeris said to demonstrate

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said 5,000 Soviet Muslims demonstrated on their side of the Araks border river Sunday in the biggest such rally since Soviet troops quashed unrest in Azerbaijan last month. Iranian Television said Monday the demonstration was held in the Nakhichevan section of Azerbaijan near the Iranian border town of Fokhadi. Soviet Azeris demanding more contacts with their kin in Iran staged similar gatherings last month before Moscow imposed a state of emergency on parts of Azerbaijan and sent tanks to its capital Baku to quell Azeri-Armenian clashes. Thousands of Azeris from Iran and the Soviet Union crossed the border, many swimming the Araks River in freezing cold.

## Human rights probe inconclusive on Iran

GENEVA (AP) — The United Nations made public on Monday a largely inconclusive report on the human rights situation in Iran, based on the first ever visit by a special U.N. investigator to the country since it came under international scrutiny in 1979. The 76-page report, compiled by Salvadoran jurist Reynaldo Galindo Pohl under a mandate from the U.N. Human Rights Commission, cites evidence of torture and other gross violations along with details that he concludes that "in many cases" it had not been possible to conduct an in-depth examination during the week-long visit last month and suggests a renewal of Galindo Pohl's mandate and another visit. The report lists the names of some 700 people "allegedly executed" in Iran, most of them during the past two years, along with 39 people alleged to have been executed by the Iranian-backed Mujahideen resistance. Iranian media reports have said that more than 1,300 were executed in Iran in slightly less than one year and Western human rights groups have carried much higher estimates.

## Perrier to relaunch sparkling water

PARIS (R) — Perrier will relaunch its sparkling mineral water globally with new labels showing the contents were bottled after a contamination scare 10 days ago which forced a massive withdrawal of stocks, a spokeswoman said Monday. Source Perrier S.A. said in a statement it had so far accounted for 90 per cent of its world stock of around 160 million bottles which it ordered withdrawn from store shelves after the contamination was detected. Company Chairman Gustave Leven announced the withdrawal after minute traces of benzene, a toxic solvent which is suspected as a cause of cancer, were detected in the water in several countries. A spokeswoman told Reuters the new stocks would carry a label saying "new production."



Masked Palestinians with flags and swords dance on the occasion of the anniversary of a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) faction in the West Bank

# 78 Palestinians shot and wounded in Gaza

## OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP

(Agencies) — Israeli troops backed by a tear-gas spraying helicopter shot and wounded at least 78 Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip Monday in some of the most violent clashes in months, doctors said. Hospital and clinic workers said at least 65 of those wounded were from Rafah refugee camp, a flashpoint of unrest in the 26-month-old Palestinian uprising. "The fighting began at dawn when residents of the teeming camp on the border with Egypt took to the streets to protest at the killing of a 20-year-old resident by troops Sunday night. The army tried to put down the protests with gunfire and tear-gas and clamped a curfew on the camp and surrounding areas."

## Rafah residents said

But protesters defied the curfew and clashes raged for hours. The army called in border police reinforcements and dropped tear-gas canisters from a helicopter, the residents said. Hospital and clinic workers said they treated 100 Palestinians for tear-gas inhalation. The clashes started when troops tried to prevent 1,000 residents from holding a wake for Wa'el Jassir Al-Hams, who was shot by troops on Sunday and died later in hospital. The army also used a gravel-spraying cannon to disperse demonstrators. At least 13 people were wounded in other Gaza areas on Monday including several children and a man of 60 from Gaza City

## who was partly paralysed when shot in the head with a rubber-coated metal bullet.

The casualties on Monday brought to at least 101 the number of people wounded by gunfire in the Gaza Strip in two days. Earlier this month, troops killed four people and wounded more than 130 in a week after reports that former Rafah residents took part in an attack on Israeli tourists in Egypt. Most of the casualties were in Rafah. Soldiers also destroyed the homes of three Palestinians accused of killing an alleged collaborator, the army said. It said a fourth home was sealed because one of its residents was suspected of fire bomb attacks. The military, meanwhile, planned to begin a phased reopening of colleges and universities that have been shut throughout the 26-month rebellion, the Jerusalem Post daily reported.

## Army officials refused to comment on the report, which said 16 vocational schools would be opened in the first stage. But the military announced plans for a news conference later Monday on the subject.

Tens of thousands of Israeli Arabs staged a general strike, shutting schools and offices to protest inadequate funding for municipal governments in Arab areas and the central government's failure to make good on a promise to write off \$50 million in debts. (Continued from page 3)

## King begins visit to Gulf

# Jordan, Kuwait discuss bilateral ties, Arab issues

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

KUWAIT — His Majesty King Hussein and Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah held talks Monday on Jordanian-Kuwaiti relations and exchanged views on pan-Arab issues, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

The two leaders, who met in a closed session shortly after the King's arrival here, also discussed international developments and their impact on the Arab World. Petra said. "The talks were held in a brotherly atmosphere characterised by mutual confidence and emphasised joint alertness and assessment of all issues covered," according to the agency.

The King, who is accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sherif Zeid Ben Shaker, Political Advisor Adnan Al-Odeh and Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Odeh, arrived here earlier in the day on the first leg of a visit to the Gulf

states, including Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

The King was expected to discuss with the Gulf leaders the latest developments in the region and means to arrive at a unified strategy to confront the challenges facing the Arab World, particularly the threats inherent in the massive influx of Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The King is also expected to discuss bilateral relations and brief the Gulf leaders on the outcome of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) held in Amman Saturday. According to an Arab diplomat quoted by the Associated Press, the King is expected to explore the possibility of convening an emergency Arab summit "unprecedented in terms of seriousness and readiness to take concrete steps to confront the perils besetting the Arab Nation."

The issue of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the possibility that the bulk of the new arrivals could be settled in the occupied territories are the main

topics expected to be discussed by the King with the Gulf leaders.

As King Hussein arrived, the Emir received a message from Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, "who warned against the dangers of the influx of the Soviet Jews on the future of the Palestinian people and their national rights," Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said.

"Colonel Qaddafi also called for collaboration of efforts to confront these dangers and stressed the need for Arab foreign ministers being present at the Security Council when it takes up the question of immigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine," he added.

The Soviet Union has said that it was asking the council to debate the question and urged the United States to cooperate. In Abu Dhabi, a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Monday that the PLO had asked the Soviet

(Continued from page 3)

# Peres: U.S. proposals are totally acceptable

TEL AVIV (R) — Vice-Premier Shimon Peres Monday called U.S. proposals for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks "totally acceptable" and political sources said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was also leaning towards acceptance.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, of Peres' Labour Party, added to pressure on Shamir by saying it was time to take a first step towards peace with Palestinians after 26 months of revolt in the occupied territories. The prime minister, his rightist Likud party badly split over the issue, declined to say if he would accept proposals given by Secretary of State James Baker to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in Washington last Friday.

But political sources said that in remarks to parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee he had played down differences on Palestinian representation, signalling that he was likely to accept Baker's ideas. Peres told visiting U.S. Jewish leaders: "What Mr. Baker suggested to Mr. Arens... is totally acceptable to us. We don't need

to be urged or pushed or demanded. We ourselves want to build a dialogue with our Palestinian neighbours."

He said remaining issues — participation of one or two Palestinians expelled by Israel from the occupied territories and one or two Palestinians from Arab Jerusalem in peace talks in Cairo — were unimportant and could be resolved by the U.S. proposals.

Rabin told high school students in Rehovot: "I am convinced the conditions have today been created to enable us to go ahead with a meeting of the foreign ministers of Israel, Egypt and the United States."

"We are now in a position to take a first step towards peace with the Palestinians which is firmly anchored in political reality and which compels us to give a yes-or-no answer."

Shamir's media adviser Avi Pazner said the prime minister had told the parliamentary committee that the policy-making inner cabinet would decide within a few days on "a minor technical step" towards elections in the

occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Participants in the closed-door meeting quoted Shamir as stressing Israel would not negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) make "the slightest concession on Jerusalem or no concession to the Arab camp whose minimum (demand) is a Palestinian state."

Baker told Arens in tough talks last Friday it was high time Israel acted to advance its own initiative.

Palestinian sources said Washington had made progress in winning acceptance from Egypt and the PLO for a formula for Palestinian representation, increasing pressure on Israel.

Egypt, as host, would announce the Palestinian delegation with PLO approval.

Peres' Labour Party last week gave Shamir two weeks to make the necessary concessions to clear the way for peace talks. But he has been torn by conflicting pressures, concerned both to hold his fractious government together and restore unity in his party.

# Aoun-Geagea mediation efforts said deadlocked

BEIRUT (AP) — Rebel General Michel Aoun's troops and militia-men of the rival Lebanese Forces skirmished in east Beirut Monday, deadlocking mediation efforts to end their bloody power struggle and driving hundreds of frightened civilians to flee.

Police reported two people killed and 10 wounded in the day-long sniping exchanges. That raised the casualty toll since the fighting erupted Jan. 30 to at least 700 killed and 1,925 wounded. It is the worst between Christian factions in the nearly 15-year-old civil war.

A police spokesman said a three-man mediation committee of independent Christian figures was unable to stop the shooting and faced "major difficulties" in arranging an overall settlement.

"The snipers didn't stop shooting although the committee members were repeatedly informed by the two headquarters that orders had been issued to halt the exchanges," the spokesman said.

The committee's failure to stabilise a repeatedly violated Feb. 17 ceasefire heightened alarm that a fresh round of fighting is likely between the two factions vying for control of the Christian

enclave north of Beirut.

The spokesman said the committee "couldn't proceed with its plan to reopen roads" inside the embattled districts of east Beirut because of the clashes.

The committee arranged for some main roads to reopen Sunday, but that has so far been all it has succeeded in achieving in its mediation efforts.

The committee's lack of progress drove hundreds of civilians, fearful that hostilities will erupt again, to cross Beirut's dividing green line into west Beirut and flee to east and north Lebanon.

Police noted a "sudden sharp increase in the rate of evacuees" in the afternoon after radio stations reported the committee was making no progress in ending the bloodshed.

At least 110,000 civilians have fled the enclave since Jan. 30, 35,000 of them since the fragile ceasefire began.

Lebanon's national carrier, Middle East Airlines, has scheduled eight extra flights a week to Cyprus for the fleeing civilians. It normally flies to Larnaca, on the island's south coast, four times a week.

Christian sources, speaking on

condition of anonymity, said the committee could not get Aoun and Geagea to agree on its plan to stabilise the ceasefire.

One source close to the mediators said Geagea's command proposed a "disengagement of forces as a necessary step to normalise the situation before continuing with the plan to reopen roads."

Geagea, the source said, "believes that reopening roads without separating the forces will only jeopardise civilians who might get caught in the crossfire of any renewed fighting."

The source said Aoun "rejected the disengagement proposal and wanted a political agreement reached with the Lebanese Forces before the committee continues with its plan for reopening roads."

Aoun's problem is that Geagea will benefit from any stabilisation of the ceasefire and reopening roads within the 800-square-kilometre enclave because it will allow him to maintain control of his current positions.

His fighters control two-thirds of the enclave, including its three

(Continued on page 5)



## Soviet envoy: Israel exploiting immigration

CAIRO (R) — Soviet Ambassador to Egypt Genady Zhuraviev accused Israel of using the migration of Soviet Jews to pressure the United States into giving it more financial aid.

"I see the tension is not caused by the Soviet Union's policy, but by Israeli political and media campaigns," Zhuraviev said in a letter published Monday in the semi-official Al Ahran newspaper.

He defended his country's new migration policy against mounting Arab criticism that it was causing regional tensions and said it was too early to know how many Jews would leave the Soviet Union.

"Israeli authorities, by intentionally blowing up the number of expected migrants, are seeking to pressure the United States and Western states into increasing their financial aid to Israel," Zhuraviev wrote.

Some of the Soviet Jews who are arriving in Israel at the rate of 4,000 to 5,000 a month have settled in the Israeli-ruled West Bank and Gaza Strip, which is home to 1.7 million Palestinians.

Hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews are expected in Israel over the next few years, sparking Arab fears that they will threaten peace efforts and the chances of a

settlement or a Palestinian homeland in the occupied territories. On Sunday, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen said they held the superpowers responsible for the mass migration, saying it was a flagrant violation of international law and the basic human rights of Palestinians.

They branded the migration as an "open aggression against the rights of the Palestinian people." And in a full-page statement in an Egyptian newspaper, 88 prominent writers, journalists, actors, doctors and Muslim fundamentalists put aside their political differences to lay blame at the feet of the superpowers.

"It is an integrated invasion plan... its aim is to throw Arabs out of their lands," said the statement, listing the names of public figures, including opposition party members.

"There is compulsory action by the superpowers... to uproot them (Arabs) and erase their existence forever, to wrench out of humanity's memories the Holy Land where prophets... were born."

Israel, Zhuraviev said, had estimated that it would need \$60,000 to resettle each Soviet Jew. He said Israel, the largest recipient of U.S. aid in the Middle East, was making the most of the migrations to serve its own "selfish intentions."

"The problem of resettlement in the Arab occupied lands is a political game," Zhuraviev said. "Perhaps it was planned to get more concessions from the Palestinians in future talks."

Egypt and the United States are struggling to get Israelis and Palestinians to the negotiating table to discuss an Israeli plan for Arab elections in the occupied territories.

The United States has said it regrets the resettlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied lands, but has fallen short of calling it illegal.

"In my opinion, tension will not be eased unless Israel refuses to resettle the Soviet Jews in the territories and gives guarantees that it will not be repeated again," Zhuraviev said.

"The Soviet Union has not recognised and will not recognise the 1967 Israeli occupation of Arab lands," he added. "It calls on Israel to stop any action which will change the demographic or natural structure of the occupied lands."

## Sister of hostage says her hopes raised by Syria

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — The sister of a U.S. journalist kidnapped five years ago in Lebanon said Monday she was heartened by Syria's offer of help in her campaign for his release.

"Instead of leaving (the Middle East) with a heavy heart like I always do, I feel the burden has been lifted," said Peggy Say, whose brother Terry Anderson is one of 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

"For several years the situation seemed only to get more complicated," Say told Reuters. "Soon, God willing, we will be united... there is no doubt in my mind that nobody wants this hostage situation to end more than Syria."

She said Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara had told her he would soon visit Iran to seek the release of the hostages, believed held by pro-Iranian groups.

Iran's top judge, the Tehran Times newspaper and an influential pro-Iranian Muslim cleric in Lebanon have all denounced hostage-taking in recent days.

Anderson, now 42, was Middle East bureau chief of the Associated Press when he was kidnapped in Beirut in March 1985. The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility.

Say left Monday for Cyprus on her way to London, where she will meet Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie. His envoy Terry Waite is also missing in Lebanon.

In recent weeks Say has met Pope John Paul and Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat and addressed the European Parliament to seek support for her campaign.

Meanwhile two leading newspapers Monday published letters addressed to Anderson from his sister expressing hope that he and the other foreign hostages held in Lebanon will be released soon.

"You are all sent strength and love and hope. Do not despair for some day — soon, please God — we will all be reunited," Say said in her letter to her brother and all other hostages held in Lebanon.

## Blazing tanker being towed to Indian Ocean

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Twelve tugboats raced against time Monday to shepherd the blazing U.S.-flagged tanker Surf City out of the Gulf to the Indian Ocean to avert a disaster, shipping executives said.

The move was ordered because of fears that the tanker could explode off the coast of the United Arab Emirates and set nearby offshore oil terminals ablaze, or that it could sink, clogging the vital Gulf shipping channel.

Flames were rekindled when more of the volatile cargo of Naphta and Diesel Fuel began spilling into parts of the 81,823-ton tanker where an explosion had ripped through the vessel Thursday.

"The tugboats are blanketing it with foam and water as it moves, and the south-to-north wind is also helping cool the tanker," said a Gulf-based shipping executive, who spoke on condition he not be named.

He estimated the tanker would need at least 10 hours to go through the Strait of Hormuz and into the open sea, where any threat to installations on shore would be eliminated.

"Normally, it would take less time but the winds, while helping cool the ship, are also contrary to the vessel's movement," he said.

The owners ordered the tanker taken to the Indian Ocean after this was requested by Sharjah oil terminal authorities for safety reasons. Twelve tugboats were involved in the operation.

The Surf City, a Kuwait-owned tanker flying the U.S. flag, sustained an explosion Thursday when it was some 32 kilometres off Sharjah, setting it alight and killing two of its 25-member, all-American crewmen.

The U.S. Navy missile frigate USS Simpson rescued 23 crewmen from lifeboats and 22 of them were flown from Dubai to the United States over the weekend. One, Earl Washington, 41, of Louisiana, remained in a Dubai hospital for treatment of first-degree burns.

The American warships were still keeping a "watchful eye" on the vessel under tow and radioing warnings to other shipping to steer six kilometres clear, said the shipping executives.

Although the fire had been contained, the gutted accom-

modation quarters were smoldering and five days of firefighting failed to quench the embers.

It was not clear why the cargo tanks, 70 per cent of which were reported late Saturday to be still intact, had begun leaking and feeding the fire later.

"Unfortunately... the fire on board the Surf City has continued and somewhat intensified," said a statement issued by the Chesapeake Shipping Inc., the company that operates Surf City and other Kuwaiti tankers refueled in the United States.

"This intensification is the result of cargo from other sections of the ship now leaking into the original site (of the fire)," the statement said.

"Consequently at 9:30 a.m. this morning (0530 GMT Monday), the salvage company responsible for the ship began towing it away from the coast and into cooler waters."

About four hours after the towing started, the company said the vessel was in international waters and moving towards the Indian Ocean.

Officials at Chesapeake said that despite the latest blaze, the ship and the cargo were not yet considered a total loss.

## Yugoslav president in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Yugoslav President Janez Drnovsek arrived in Cairo Monday for talks with President Hosni Mubarak.

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat Sharif told reporters discussions would focus on the Soviet Jewish exodus to Israel and political changes in Eastern Europe.

Arab states fear Israel will settle many immigrants in the occupied territories, where several hundred have already moved. During his three-day stay, Drnovsek will also visit the tomb of late Egyptian President Jamal Abdul Nasser, a close ally of late Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito. Egypt and Yugoslavia have had close ties since they and India founded the Non-Aligned Movement in the mid-1950s.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Libya releases Egyptian fishermen

CAIRO (AP) — Libya released three Egyptian fishing boats and 19 fishermen detained six months ago after straying into Libyan waters, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Monday. But despite a thaw in unfriendly Egyptian-Libyan relations, the agency said two other boats and 18 crewmen remain imprisoned. It said the returning fishermen expect them to be freed. The agency said the released boats and their crews arrived Sunday night in the Egyptian Mediterranean port of Mersa Matruh, 490 kilometres northwest of Cairo. Reporting from there, MENA quoted the released crewmen as saying they were treated well by Libyan authorities and that they expect their colleagues to be released with their boats. They did not say when.

### Tunisia's Islamic spokesman detained

TUNIS (R) — Police detained the spokesman for Tunisia's Islamic movement Monday after he accused the government of violent repression. Ali Laaridh of the Nahdha (Renaissance) Movement was picked up from his home at 2 a.m. (0100 GMT) and taken to the Ministry of Interior for questioning, his colleagues said. Ministry officials were not available to comment. In a statement Friday, Laaridh said the handling of unrest by Islamist students "shows that the government has chosen the logic of violence by adopting police methods to treat the legitimate demands of the popular masses." The authorities detained 583 students last week after the Islamist-dominated Tunisian General Students' Union organised sit-ins at 10 university buildings. At least 283 of the students detained have been drafted into the army. Laaridh's statement said: "The Nahdha movement recalls that the use of repression... in treating problems is bound to fail and constitutes a major cause of the crisis facing the country." It is Laaridh's second spell in detention since he was appointed late last year as spokesman for the movement which does not have official recognition. On the first occasion, he was released with a warning. The government says the military students are a minority trying to drag the majority into conflict with the government and prove the strength of the Islamic movement.

### Arens in Poland

WARSAW (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens arrived in Poland Monday to renew diplomatic ties severed in 1967. "The Polish government today admits its breaking of ties with Israel was a serious mistake," the government daily Rzeczpospolita said in a commentary entitled "Poland apologises to Israel." It said Warsaw planned to make amends for a 1968 anti-semitic purge, which forced some 30,000 Jews to emigrate, by allowing them to return and restoring their Polish citizenship. The two countries are expected to sign an agreement on Tuesday restoring full diplomatic relations. This will lead to an exchange of ambassadors and the elevation of low-level diplomatic missions to embassy status. Poland and other Soviet Bloc states, except Romania, followed Moscow's lead in severing relations with Israel during the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

### N. Zealand aide in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — New Zealand's overseas trade minister, Michael Moore, arrived in Tehran Sunday for talks with Iranian officials on developing links in agriculture, one of the weak spots in Iran's economy. The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, said Moore was greeted at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. The agency quoted Velayati as saying that relations between the two countries have improved and expanded in the last few years, particularly in agriculture. Velayati described New Zealand's policy as independent from the West, which is largely considered hostile by the revolutionary regime in Tehran. It quoted Moore as saying New Zealand sought special ties with Iran. Tehran radio, also heard in Cyprus, quoted Agriculture Minister Isa Kalantari as telling Moore: "We have no limits to our expansion of economic cooperation with New Zealand, and in view of New Zealand's experience in the field of agriculture, we are ready to expand existing relations." The minister added, "we hope to benefit from technological transfer alongside the commercial relations with your country."

## Turkey invites Syria, Iraq for talks on water issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Directorate General of the Hydraulic Works of the Republic of Turkey has invited the relevant Iraqi and Syrian organisations to attend the meeting of the joint technical committee to be held between March 7 and 12, 1990 in Ankara, according to a Turkish embassy press release received in Amman Monday.

The joint technical committee was set up for the purpose of discussing the topic of transboundary rivers among the three countries pursuant to the Protocol of the Turco-Iraqi Joint Economic Committee dated Dec. 25, 1980. The committee aims at exchanging the hydraulic and meteorological information related to the transboundary rivers, discussing the alternative solutions for the utilisation of the waters and spending efforts to narrow the reciprocal views on the matter.

The method of "crisis management" applied by the committee during the periods respectively of inundations (floods) in 1988 and of drought in 1989 sufficed to demonstrate the importance of its function the press release said. The direct communication channels have been established between the relevant organisations of the three countries which function regularly at present. The Committee holds alternate meetings in the capitals of the three countries on request of one of them. Fourteen meetings have been held so far, including the recent one which took place in Damascus in December 1989. The aim of the joint technical committee is to take up the matter within the technical level and to conduct studies.

Turkey had announced that she had set a schedule for the three phased plan on "reasonable, equitable and optimum" utilisation of the waters of the "Euphrates-Tigris basin" and provided technical information on Turkey's alternative solution during the 13th meeting of the committee, the press release added.

## Israeli Arabs strike over municipal funding

TEL AVIV (AP) — Shops and schools were closed in Israeli Arab communities Monday in a general strike called to protest inadequate central government funding for their town and city councils.

Ibrahim Nimer Hussein, mayor of the Galilee town of Shfaram and chairman of the Committee of Arab Municipalities, told a news conference that "the crisis of Arab local authorities is unprecedented."

He noted that some school-teachers and other government workers have not been paid for six months. Most Arab municipal workers have been on strike for more than two weeks.

"We are unable to pay for the water that residents drink or the electricity," Hussein complained. A rally and march was sche-

duled later Monday in the northern port city of Haifa.

The strike, which closed most Arab businesses in the Galilee area, was the first across the region since last March 30, when Israeli Arabs staged their annual "land day" protests and held marches in support of a Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Arab territories, home to 1.7 million Arabs, were occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war. Another 700,000 Palestinians live inside Israel and are citizens.

Hussein told the news conference in Shfaram that if the strike and rally did not achieve results, "we will have to go for further action." He did not elaborate. He and other Arab leaders said

that Arab communities received only one-fourth to one-third of the central government funding that Jewish communities get.

They also criticised the government of right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for failing to follow through with their pledge to reschedule 100 million shekels (\$30 million) in Arab community debts.

The agreement, reached six months ago, has not been implemented, they said.

Shamir's advisor on Arab affairs, Eliezer Zafini, said he sympathised with the complaints of Israeli Arabs, saying "there is no doubt that things are dragging." But he also criticised the strike and urged more restraint to avoid escalating tensions between Jews and Arabs.

## Aoun trapped between defeat and destroying the prize

By Peter Smerdon

Beirut

BEIRUT — After nearly a month of devastating war for control of Lebanon's Christian enclave, General Michel Aoun is trapped between political defeat or further destruction of the prize.

"Aoun rushed into something he had to win completely or he would lose," said a Western diplomat. "He has failed to win on the ground and now as to weigh his few choices to ensure his long-term survival. He is hesitating because it is a hard choice."

Mediators have arranged an eight-day-old ceasefire between the forces of Aoun and those of Samir Geagea, chief of the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia. But many in the Christian enclave fear the combatants are merely regrouping for further bloodshed.

Geagea welcomes efforts to stabilise the status quo as he holds much of the ground and key food, transport and energy facilities.

For Aoun, however, accepting the status quo would represent the biggest defeat he has suffered since being named to head a Christian administration in September 1988.

"If the war stops now, Aoun

will stay but will have to pay the price of political compromise," the diplomat said. "He and Geagea may be publicly reconciled but privately they will doubtless continue to work for each other's downfall."

Most Western diplomatic sources believe the ceasefire cannot last and say Aoun and Geagea are doomed to fight to the finish.

But Christian politicians say that while war could break out again, both sides have come to realise the cost and might be ready for cooperation.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

So far more than 700 people have been killed and 2,500 wounded since fighting erupted when Aoun ordered the 10,000-strong LF to disarm on Jan. 31.

The diplomatic sources thought it unlikely that Syrian forces would try to halt the fighting.

"Why should the Syrians intervene in this mess," one asked. "They can watch both sides destroy themselves while any attack may unite Geagea and Aoun."

Aoun's 15,000 troops hold one-third of the enclave which

even before the fighting was gripped by an economic crisis and cannot hope to function unless supplies and people can move freely.

The LF has consolidated control over the port of Jounieh and also holds a makeshift airstrip on a section of the coastal highway at Halat.

"Aoun and his supporters can't even leave Lebanon without passing through LF- or Syrian-held areas. He has at last well and truly cornered himself," said a veteran Lebanese commentator.

The prospect of renewed fighting against the LF, which has proved itself a tenacious opponent, would be daunting for Aoun.

"Militarily the army should still be able to beat the LF," said a Western military analyst. "But at the present rate of progress it will probably take several weeks and it is doubtful the army can sustain an offensive that long."

The devastation in LF pockets captured by the army in tank and artillery battles so far — in which hardly a building escaped unscathed — provides ample evidence of the destruction renewed fighting would bring.

At least 10 per cent of the



A Lebanese family escapes from the battered area of Ain Al Rummaneh through handmines planted by the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia before the LF

enclave's 900,000 residents are estimated to have fled to safer areas, either in Syrian-controlled territory or abroad.

Most of those civilians who remain say they still support Aoun but their opinion may change if their homes are destroyed.

"If Aoun makes a deal, he

will have to live with the people who believed in the war against the LF and were betrayed," said a diplomatic source. "If he fights on he risks hitting the homes of his supporters because LF snipers are on the roof."

However the protagonists have so far not placed too high a price on innocent lives.

Asked last week whether he should be trying to save lives, Aoun replied: "You want to save a threatened people which has been guilty. Maybe God wants to punish them. Let them return to their prayers."

# JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

17:34

Maghreb

18:51

Tala

## CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweilish Tel. 810740.

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 623785, 685326.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 677440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.

Terraviva Church Tel. 622666.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541.

Assumption Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625433.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Assuan International Church Tel. 683526.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 815817, 649322.

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Another rise in temperature is ex-

pected and winds will be light and variable becoming southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 2 / 15

Aqaba 10 / 23

Deserta 1 / 17

Jordan Valley 12 / 24

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 44 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Aswaz Agrebiawi 642696

Dr. Abdul Karim Ahmad 744685

Dr. Munir Khatib 898101

Dr. Abbas Al Hashim 891226

Firas pharmacy 661912

Fardous pharmacy 778336

Al Asana pharmacy 657025

Nutroch pharmacy 626772

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Simonek pharmacy 637660

REKED:

Dr. Adel Elstahash (-)

Al Shamsa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Abdul Karim Khateebash (-)

Khalifah pharmacy 985417

## EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 159

Fire Brigade 691226

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 894302

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 605800

Police Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 897467

Antenna Municipality 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Repairs 661101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

RT Flight Information 08-5230

Queen Aila Int. Airport 08-53200

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/2

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shamsiah 664171/4

Shamsiah Hospital 669515

University Hospital 845845

Al-Masdar Hospital 667227/9

The Islamic, Abdali 666127/7

Al-Abdi, Abdali 664164/6

Al-Abdi, Al-Masdar 777015

Dr. J. Al-Saleh 773111/5

Army, Marj 891612/15

Queen Aila Int. Airport 602240/5

Amal Hospital 674135

Zarqa Gen. Hospital (09)96323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)985732

REKED:

Prince Basmal Hospital (02)275555

Green Catholic Hospital (02)272775

Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)914111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA

### INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)5320-5, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

06:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

06:45 Jeddah (RJ)

06:45 Agaba (RJ)

06:45 Cairo (RJ)

06:45 Muscat, Dhahran (RJ)

06:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

06:45 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)

16:00 Montreal, New York (RJ)

16:45 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)

17:45 Baghdad (RJ)

17:45 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)

19:40 Tripoli (RJ)

19:55 Belgrade, Bucharest (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:45 Cairo (MS)

10:50 Kuwait (KU)

12:45 Moscow, Larnaca (SU)

17:45 Rome (AZ)

17:50 Dubai, Damascus (EK)

19:35 Beirut (ME)

20:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)

06:35 London (BA)

## DEPARTURES

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

07:00 Agaba (RJ)

10:40 Tripoli (RJ)

10:45 Vienna, Chicago (RJ)

11:45 Belgrade, Vienna (RJ)

11:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)

12:40 Paris, Brussels (RJ)

12:40 Frankfurt, London (RJ)

12:45 Cairo (RJ)

12:45 Baghdad (RJ)

17:50 Onion (RJ)

19:40 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)

20:10 Cairo (RJ)

20:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

21:45 Larnaca (RJ)

21:45 Jeddah (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:35 Cairo (MS)

11:40 Kuwait (KU)

15:00 Larnaca, Moscow (SU)

18:05 Dubai (AZ)

18:30 Dubai (EK)

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in file per kg.

Apples 480 / 440

Bananas 400 / 350

Bananas (Mukhannas) 400 / 350

Corn 900 / 800

Cabbage 70 / 50

Carrots 200 / 150

Cauliflower 70 / 40

Corn 180 / 140

Cumbers (large) 250 / 200

Cumbers (small) 430 / 370

Dates 400 / 350

Eggplant 220 / 180

Garlic 700 / 800

Grapes 240 / 200

Lemons 200 / 170

Lettuce (per one) 120 / 80

Marrows (large) 200 / 150

Onion (small) 300 / 250

Onion (large) 260 / 220

Onion (green) 220 / 180

Orange 250 / 200

Onion (Shamsiah) 350 / 300

Pepper (hot) 900 / 800

Pepper (sweet) 720 / 650

Potatoes 190 / 150

Sage 500 / 400

Spinach 120 / 80

Tomatoes 140 / 100







## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## Taking the bull by the horn

IN THE wake of the Arab Cooperation Council's summit in Amman, the eyes of the Arab World are once again focused on an Arab League summit. As a matter of fact, the nature and magnitude of the issues and conflicts confronting the Arab Nation require an Arab summit in order to tap the collective Arab strength behind moves to confront them. His Majesty King Hussein's ongoing tour of the Arab Gulf is clearly linked to the preliminary decision to convene an Arab summit as soon as possible in a bid to prepare for it.

In this vein, there has been much talk about the need to prepare well for any such Arab summit lest it end up like some past conference of Arab leaders i.e. mere slogans that have yet to be translated into actions.

In this context, there are many preparatory measures that need to be undertaken before convening a successful and meaningful Arab summit. On top of any such preliminary steps must surely be the assessment of whether there is enough political will and determination in each and every Arab country to abide by the anticipated decisions of such an Arab summit. Otherwise, the holding of the much-talked-about Arab summit would not be even worth the travel expenses of the Arab leaders attending it. As much as one would want to be proven wrong, all existing indicators speak of an Arab World divided on many profound and deep-rooted grounds that would require more than mere holding of summits to redress and rectify. That is perhaps the number one impediment that prevents Arab summits from turning into really successful gathering. Hopefully, the dramatic changes occurring in the Soviet Union and East Europe will force the Arab countries to give priority to pan-Arab issues over provincial concerns and strictly domestic priorities. To arrive at this cherished stage in Arab perspective, it would require first that the quiescent message emanating from these breathtaking changes be well understood by the Arab countries. However, there are alarming signals from the Arab World suggesting that many Arab states are responding to these changes in a rather defensive manner instead of approaching them as a moral of story that needs to be heeded.

Perhaps the next Arab summit should dedicate its attention on how best and positively they can react to the changing world all around them. Such an early summit can then serve as a harbinger for a thorough reformation within the entire Arab World and as a prelude for adopting realistic steps to confront the dangers poised at the door of the Arab Order.

Unless and until the Arab Nation takes the bull by the horn and face up to the civilisation challenges awaiting it at its threshold, there is no way that traditional Arab summits can rise to the dangers and threats surrounding the Arab World.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian Arabic dailies on Monday dwelt on the outcome of the ACC summit which has concluded Sunday paying tribute to the ACC leaders for their endeavours to help their countries to integrate as a step towards the aspired Arab unity.

Al Rai'd daily for its part referred to King Hussein's brief statement at the conclusion of the summit in which he said that world developments make it incumbent on the Arabs to form economic blocs. The end of the cold war following four decades of mistrust between East and West has brought about a new world situation where economic groupings crop up; and where there is no room for weak entities, said the paper. The formation of the ACC, the paper said, came just in time to help Arab countries deal with the new developments and their outcome, and effect on the Arab World. There is no doubt that the ACC leaders have discussed these events and examined ways for meeting the new challenges. There is no doubt that these leaders also looked into means of safeguarding their four countries and the Arab World at large from hostile conspiracies, said the paper. The paper expressed the view that while the cold war is over, the Arabs should expect a more dangerous phase represented in the new developments and their impact on their region.

Al Dastour daily said that the Arab masses no doubt have an increased confidence in their leaders to safely steer them away from the dangers posed to the Arab Nation. The paper said that King Hussein's statement upon seeing off the ACC leaders following their summit in Amman, can best be described as reflecting the feelings of the whole Jordanian family towards the ACC states and the new hopes that came about from their resolutions at their summit. The King has expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the summit, and has expressed the feelings of all Jordanian citizens about a brighter future for the ACC group which has come about as an essential step to protect Arab interests, the paper added. There is no doubt, added the paper, that the ACC is following a sound course of joint action, leading towards full integration, which is considered as a basic step for pan-Arab unity.

Sawt Al Shabb Arabic daily said in an editorial that the people of Jordan, Iraq, North Yemen and Egypt will no doubt feel that their leaders' endeavours will bear fruit and that their countries are heading towards further integration for the benefit of all four countries. The paper said that the ACC heads of state have displayed a great degree of solidarity in the face of challenges, and expressed their backing for Jordan in the face of Israel's threats. It is true that Jordan is now facing enormous difficulties, but it said the country is steadfast and determined to thwart the Israeli hostile onslaught. The paper stressed that Jordan takes pride in the ACC's support for the Kingdom which can only enhance the country's own determination to abort Israel's plans and conspiracies.

## The View from Fourth Circle

# Ancestors to remember

By Rami G. Khouri

BEHIND the emotional satisfaction of seeing Nelson Mandela released from prison after 27 years of detention lies a timely political message for the Palestine issue. The message is all the more important because of the frequent and misguided suggestion that the political camp lead by Yasser Arafat is in danger of losing its legitimacy and its following if its peace diplomacy does not show results soon.

The political overtures of South African President Frederick de Klerk and Nelson Mandela's release are dramatic confirmation that right and justice are more likely to triumph if they are bolstered by two crucial elements: 1) a genuine national/political identity by those who struggle for their rights over a long period of time, and, 2) a coherent, realistic and sustained political programme based on justice for all the concerned parties.

Inevitably, these two factors will see justice done, and oppression overturned. The black, white and coloured South Africans who have struggled for their national dignity and personal rights have done so against tremendous odds. They have paid a heavy price in terms of lives lost and hardships suffered. But today they prevail, and enjoy the support of the entire world. Within just a few more years, they will enjoy a free, humane, pluralistic and democratic country. And so will Palestine.

The Palestinians shall live in freedom and dignity because their cause is just, because they have shown beyond a doubt that theirs is a genuine and durable national identity, and — most importantly today — because the Palestinian political leadership has proved itself able to formulate and to sustain a coherent, realistic and conciliatory political programme over a period of many years. Reminds you of Mr. Mandela and his people? It should.

1. Even since the PLO started talking about the concept of a West Bank/Gaza state in the Spring of 1973, the overwhelming Palestinian majority has nurtured a clear political programme to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of two states — a Palestinian and Israeli state. This is a triumph of political realism and diplomatic maturity, and Mr. Arafat, his colleagues and the millions of Palestinians and other Arabs who have held to this position should be recognised for their consistency and their resolve. To steer a steady path for 18 years, amidst the turbulent politics of the Middle East, the militarism of Israel, and the diplomatic ineffectiveness of the United States, strikes me as a rather impressive performance. Mr. Arafat and the PLO emphatically are not a political leadership that bends and breaks with the

seasonal breezes.

2. The intifada, coming two generations after the great strike in Palestine in 1936-39, is the affirmation of a national political identity that measures itself today not in U.N. resolutions or decades, but in generations. The children of the intifada are the grandchildren of those who carried out the great strike in 1936-39. The generational torch has been passed twice over: from grandfather to father to son; from grandmother to mother to daughter. Along with its collective human cry to be free, the intifada is also the expression of a genuine and durable identity, an authentic Palestinianism that will triumph in the near future because it is firmly rooted in the past. The stones thrown by children today are propelled in part by the ghosts, the memories, the pride, and the legacy of the children's grandfathers.

3. In another 5 years, the Palestinian-Zionist conflict will be 100 years old. The message to Israelis, Zionists, Jews and those who wield power in the land of the free and the home of the beefless is very clear: no people has monopoly on political activism based on its ancestral ties to the land of Palestine. If Jews and Zionists have convinced the world that their cause is just in part because their ancestors once lived in Palestine, because they maintained their communal sentiment over the decades and centuries, because they have asserted a longevity of identity — then they should welcome the Palestinians to their club. For today, the Palestinians, too, have ancestors to remember, to honour, and, ultimately, to vindicate. Behind every stone of the intifada is a grandmother and a grandfather, a memory, a tale of a stone house among orange and olive groves, a national folklore, a history, a mythology, a dream, a will to return, a determination to succeed, a fire to be free.

4. Mr. Mandela's ordeal, his recent release, and his inevitable triumph should remind us of the importance of the combination of conducting a political confrontation/struggle while simultaneously sustaining a firm diplomatic position. In time, the world will catch up, autocrats will fade away, oppressors will tire, tyrants will be discredited, the military and economic power of the predator will prove meaningless, and the patience and realism of those who have honoured justice and have fought for their national rights shall be rewarded.

It is easy, almost fashionable, to criticise Yasser Arafat and the PLO leadership these days, and to wonder when they will fall, or

change, or retreat, or quit in frustration. The most cogent answer to this attitude, I would suggest, is to be found walking around in Mr. Mandela's home in Soweto, in the form of a man who has been freed from prison in order that he may lead all his people — black, white, coloured or otherwise — to true freedom.

5. Mr. Arafat's position has started to make inroads in Israeli public opinion, and substantial inroads among American Jewish leaders. The percentage of American Jews and Israelis who believe that a Palestinian and Israeli state could co-exist — or who believe something along these lines vis-a-vis settlements, land-for-peace, or talking to the PLO — has consistently increased during the past decade. Sometime during this decade (perhaps, symbolically, on the 100th anniversary of the founding of modern political Zionism in 1905) a majority of Israelis will accept the inevitability of a Palestinian state — because there is no feasible alternative. Like the Palestinian acceptance of the state of Israel, the Israeli recognition of Palestinian nationalism will come slowly and grudgingly. But once it happens — and I am convinced it will happen soon — it will be irreversible.

6. International and regional trends are working in favour of the Palestinian national struggle. International détente, the gradual trend towards pluralism in the Arab World, international disengagement with Israel's hardline policies, and the serious isolation of Israel's militaristic posture will all help the Palestine cause. The litmus test and harbinger of this is the dramatic change in American Jewish leaders, nearly three-quarters of whom believe that talking to the PLO is necessary for peace, that a Palestinian state is probably inevitable, and that Israel can coexist in peace and security with a Palestinian state with appropriate security guarantees for all. A majority of Israelis will follow suit, perhaps next year, perhaps at the end of this decade, but they will follow suit — because there is no realistic alternative, and because the humanitarian and realism of the Jewish ethic will soon start to assert itself over the fearful, narrow-minded militarists.

7. As we rejoice for Mr. Mandela and Mr. de Klerk alike, both of whom have taken a step towards freedom, we should recall the path that brought them to this point. It is a path of consistent struggle and principled demands for inalienable national rights, a path which the Palestinian national movement, the PLO, has walked with great perseverance and patience. It is also a path to victory, whether in Soweto or Jerusalem.

# In order to build, you have to destroy first

Hans Magnus Enzensberger

YOU FIND them in every European capital, in the centre of the city, where space is symbolic: corpulent centaurs, metal hermaphrodites, Roman emperors, Grand Dukes, eternally victorious generals. Under their hoods, civil servants hurry to their ministries, or spectators into the opera, or believers to mass.

They represent the European hero, without whom the history of the continent is barely imaginable. But with the invention of the motor car, the spirit of the age dismounted — Lenin and Mussolini, Franco and Stalin, all managed without a whimpering undercarriage, and the stockpiles of heroes in stone were shipped off to Caribbean islands or Siberian combines. Inflation and elephantiasis heralded the end of the hero whose principal preoccupations were conquest, triumph and delusions of grandeur.

Writers saw it coming. A hundred years ago literature waved goodbye to those larger-than-life characters whose very creation it had helped bring about. The victory song and tales of derring-do belong now to prehistory. No one is interested in Augustus or Alexander; it is Bonaparte and Pechouet or Vladimir and Estragon. Frederick the Great and Napoleon have been relegated to the literary basement; as for those hymns to Hitler and Odes to Stalin — they were destined for the scrapheap from the very start.

In the past few decades, a more significant protagonist has stepped forward; a hero of a new kind, representing not victory, conquest and triumph, but remembrance, reduction and dismantling. We have every reason to concern ourselves with these specialists in denial, for our continent depends on them if it is to survive.

It was Clausewitz, the doyen of strategic thinking, who showed

that retreat is the most difficult of all operations. That applies in politics as well. But if the stature of the hero is proportional to the difficulty of the task before him, then it follows that our concept of the heroic needs not only to be revised, but to be stood on its head. Any cretin can throw a bomb. It is a thousand times more difficult to define one.

Popular opinion, especially in Germany, holds to the traditional view. It demands steadfastness of purpose, insisting on a political morality which places single-mindedness and adherence to principle above all else, even, if it comes to it, above respect for human life. This unambiguity is not on offer from the heroes of retreat.

Retreating from a position you have held involves not only surrendering the middle ground, but also giving up a part of yourself. Such a move cannot succeed without a separation of character and role. The expert dismantler shows his political mettle by taking this ambiguity on to himself. The paradigm is particularly apparent in the wake of this century's totalitarian dictatorships.

At first the significance of the pioneers of retreat was barely detectable. People still claim that Nikita Khrushchev didn't know what he was doing, that he couldn't have guessed the implications of his actions; after all, he talked of perfecting communism, not of abolishing it. And yet, in his famous speech to the Twentieth Party Congress, he sowed more than the seeds of his own downfall. His intellectual horizon may have been narrow, his strategy clumsy and his manner arrogant, but he showed more courage in his own beliefs than almost any other politician of his generation. It was precisely the uneasy side to his character that suited him for his task. Today the subversive logic of his credentials as a hero lie open for all to see:

the deconstruction of the Soviet empire began with him.

The internal contradictions of the historical demolition man were more starkly exposed in the career of Janos Kadar. This man who, a few months ago, was buried quietly and unobtrusively in Budapest, made a pact with the occupying forces after the failed uprising of 1956. It is rumoured that he was responsible for 800 death sentences. Hardly had the victims of his repression been buried than he got to work on the task that was to occupy him for the next 30 years: the patient undermining of the absolute dictatorship of the Communist Party.

It is surprising that there was no serious disturbance; there were constant setbacks and shattered hopes, but through compromise and tactical manoeuvring Kadar's process moved inexorably forward. Without the Hungarian precedent it is hard to see how the dissolution of the Eastern Bloc would have begun; Kadar's trail-blazing role in this is beyond dispute. It is equally clear that he was no match for the forces he helped to unleash. His was the archetypal fate of the historical demolition man: in doing his job he ended up undermining his own position. The dynamic he set in motion buried him aside, and he was buried by his own successes.

Adolfo Suarez, General Secretary of the Spanish phalanx, became Prime Minister after Franco's death. In a meticulously planned coup he did away with the regime, installed his own Unity Party in power and forced through a democratic constitution; the operation was delicate and dangerous. This was no vague hunch, like Khrushchev's; this was the work of an intelligence at the height of its awareness: a military putsch would have led to bloody repression and perhaps a new civil war.

Suarez had played a role in, and gained advantage from, the

Franco regime. Had he not belonged to the innermost circles of power he would not have been in a position to abolish the dictatorship. At the same time, his past earned him the undying mistrust of all democrats. Indeed, Spain has not forgiven him to this day. In the eyes of his former comrades he was a traitor; those whose path he had cleared saw him as an opportunist. After abdicating his leading role in the period of transition he never found his feet again. His role in the party system of the republic has remained obscure. The hero of retreat can be sure of only one thing: the ingratitude of the fatherland.

The moral dilemma assumes almost tragic dimensions in the figure of Wojciech Jaruzelski. In 1981, he saved Poland from the inevitability of Soviet invasion. The price of salvation was the introduction of martial law and the internment of those very members of the unofficial opposition who today run the country under his presidency. The resounding success of his policies did not spare him the wrath of the Polish people, a large number of whom regard him to this day with utter hatred. With his stiff, lifeless gestures and his eyes hidden behind dark sunglasses, he personifies the patriot as martyr. This political Saint Sebastian is a figure of Shakespearean stature.

The same cannot be said of those who lagged behind him. Egon Krenz and Ladislav Adamew will, in all probability, merit only a footnote in history, the one as a burlesque, the other as a petty bourgeois version of the heroic rearguard. But neither the grin of the German nor the fatherly countenance of the Czech should be allowed to obscure the importance of the part they played.

The very agility we reproach them for has been their only service. In that paralyzing stillness of the pregnant moment, when one side waits for the other

to move and nothing happens, someone has to be the first to clear his throat, to utter the first half-choked whisper that starts the avalanche. "Someone", a German social democrat once said, "has to be the bloodhound." Seventy years later someone had to spike the bloodhounds' guns, although as it turned out it was a Communist Pulcinella who broke the deadly silence. No one will cherish his memory. This itself makes him memorable.

The real hero of deconstruction, however, is himself the driving force. Mikhail Gorbachev is the initiator of a process with which others, willingly or unwillingly, can only struggle to keep up. He is — of this we can probably now be certain — a timeless figure. The sheer size of the task he has taken on is without precedent. He is attempting to dismantle the second to the last remaining monolithic empire of the 20th century without the use of force, without panic, in peace. Whether he can succeed remains to be seen; he has already achieved what no one, even a few months ago, would have believed possible.

Gorbachev has no illusions about his popularity at home. The greatest proponent of the politics of doing without is confronted at every step with demands for something positive, as if it were enough simply to promise the people another golden future where everyone would receive free soap, rockets and borderly affection, each according to his needs; as if there were any other way forward but by retreating; as if there were any other hope for the future but by dismantling the Leviathan and searching for a way out of the nightmare and back to normality.

The protagonist risks his life with every step he takes on his path. He is surrounded on the right and on the left by enemies old and new, loud and silent. As

befits the hero, Mikhail Gorbachev is a very lonely man.

Not that we should homage these greater and lesser heroes of deconstruction; they are not asking for that. Any memorial would be superfluous. It is time, however, to take them seriously, to look more closely at what they have in common and how they differ. A political morality which recognises only good and evil spirits will not be up to this task. A German philosopher once said that by the end of the century the question would no longer be one of improving the world but of saving it, which applies not only to those dictatorships whose elaborate dismantling we have watched with our own eyes. The Western democracies are also facing an unprecedented dissolution.

The military aspect is only one of many. We must also withdraw from our untenable position in the war of debt against the Third World, and the most difficult retreat of all will be in the war against the biosphere which we have been waging since the Industrial Revolution. It is time for our own diminutive statesmen to measure up to the demolition experts.

An energy or transport policy worthy of the name will only come about through a strategic retreat. Certain large industries — ultimately no less threatening than one-party rule — will have to be broken up. The courage and conviction necessary to bring this about will hardly be greater than those the Communist functionary had to summon up to do away with his party's monopoly.

But instead our political leadership senses victory, indulging in ridiculous posturing and self-satisfaction. It gloats and it stonewalls, thinking it can master the future by sitting it out. It hasn't the slightest idea about the moral imperative of sacrifice. It knows nothing of the politics of retreat. It has a lot to learn — The Guardian.

# Harsh rhetoric strains U.S.-Filipino relations

By Robert H. Reid  
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Four years after Corason Aquino swept to power with strong words of support from Washington, harsh rhetoric and wide differences over U.S. military bases have strained relations between her administration and the United States.

The strains have emerged nearly three months after U.S. warplanes helped save Mrs. Aquino from military mutineers out to topple her government. Ironically, the intervention may have contributed to the present strains by making her government eager to show it can still display independence from the nation's former colonial ruler.

Since her highly publicised "snub" last week of U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney, whom Aquino refused to receive personally, the government has moved to soften its rhetoric towards the United States.

But the strains have also been

exacerbated by statements by U.S. officials questioning the political survivability of Mrs. Aquino, who swept to power on Feb. 25, 1986 in the uprising against the late Ferdinand Marcos.

"Let me just acknowledge to you that U.S.-R.P. relations are in a bumpy path right now," said U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Platt in a television interview this week. "We're in some turbulent air."

Relations with Washington began to sour months after Congress cut \$96 million from the president's Philippine aid package.

Filipino officials considered this a violation of the October 1988 agreement under which the United States offered \$962 million over two years in return for use of Clark air base, the Subic Bay naval base and four smaller installations through the end of their lease in 1991. That offer was subject to congressional ratification.

Talks on extending the lease are expected to begin in a few

weeks. But any agreement must be ratified by two-thirds of the 23-member Philippine senate. More than half the 195-member house of representatives has already urged Mrs. Aquino to postpone discussing the bases until the aid was restored.

Before Cheney's visit Mrs. Aquino said she would not receive the defence chief because she was angry over adverse reports of her administration in the U.S. press.

Filipino officials now insist the "snub" was to demonstrate anger over aid cuts. But Mrs. Aquino, who bristles at criticism, cited only the press reports, making it appear her decision was more emotional than political.

Filipino diplomatic sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Washington embassy had warned that the Cheney snub and strong anti-American statement from congressmen and commentators threatened to undermine U.S. support.

In Manila, Cheney offered no guarantees the aid would be re-

tored. He cited Congress' desire for fiscal restraint.

Mrs. Aquino welcomed Cheney's statements of support and said she was ready to negotiate with the Americans in "sincerity and good faith."

An influential minority here believe the bases infringe on sovereignty, contribute to prostitution and drug addiction and should be closed.

Unlike South Koreans, who face an enemy to the north, Filipinos generally perceive no external military threat. Therefore, U.S. arguments that the bases are essential for national regional defence carry little weight here.

Last year, Mrs. Aquino noted to foreign reporters that the presence of U.S. troops here did not deter Japan from invading in 1941 and doubtless encouraged the attack.

Most Filipinos consider the bases a business deal — renting territory in return for cash — and "failure" to pay constitutes a breach of contract.

Last December, U.S. jets from Clark flew air cover for govern-

ment forces, and their intervention was widely seen as decisive in defeating the uprising against Mrs. Aquino.

But the intervention also encouraged a belief that Mrs. Aquino owes her political survival to the Americans and will ultimately agree to extend the bases at terms favourable only to the United States.

"Could it be that Cheney knew that in the present conflict with the Aquino government over the bases, the U.S. holds all the aces?" wrote commentator Ariel Bococho in the Manila Standard.

The Philippines badly needs U.S. dollars in economic and military aid upon which the Aquino government pins all hope for economic recovery.

Last January, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State David Lambertson said the "danger of a new coup attempt exists" and that corruption "remains a real problem in the Philippines."

Some Filipino officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, believe such statements are a

pressure tactic to force the government to accept an unfavourable bases agreement.

Officials here are deeply sensitive about such statements from Washington because they recall the buildup of criticism of the Marcos administration, culminating in the United States abandoning its longtime ally in favour of Mrs. Aquino in 1986.

U.S. diplomats here, also speaking on anonymity, fear that current spate of criticism may actually encourage a new coup attempt. They say the public rift between the countries could mistakenly convince military dissidents that Washington would not intervene in a new putsch, in hopes the new government would allow the bases to remain.

"The forces ranged in favour of the Philippines-U.S. military bases agreement are or could be formidable," wrote Mrs. Aquino's former spokesman, Teodoro Benigno, in the Philippine Star. "If Cory Aquino cannot assure that extension, he could be swept up like leaves in an autumn gale."



# Features

## Complaint well taken

On Feb. 12, 1990, the Jordan Times reported an advertisement of a lecture entitled "The Islamic Revolution" by Salman Rushdie, which first appeared in the Guardian newspaper in Britain. Subsequently, the Jordan Times received many letters and calls complaining that it was a mistake for a Jordanian newspaper to reprint an article by the author of "The Satanic Verses," a book which attacked Islam and hurt the feelings of Muslims all over the world. The Jordan Times fully understands these complaints and agrees that on the whole they are justifiable. Furthermore, reprinting that article was an editorial oversight which normally would have been avoided. The Jordan Times wishes to apologise to all those readers whose feelings were hurt by publishing the article and would like to assure them that the newspaper is fully committed to the higher principles and interests of Jordan as an Arab and Muslim country.

The Jordan Times

## Horror flight chimps enrolled in bush orphanage

By Rory Channing  
Reuters

NAIROBI — Grumps and boo boo, wearing nappies at odds with their seemingly old, wise faces, have become minor celebrities in Karen, a fashionable suburb of Nairobi.

But the orphaned baby chimpanzees made headlines the hard way.

And their ordeal strikes a raw nerve among wildlife lovers frustrated by the failure of efforts to halt a thriving, illegal trade in endangered and exotic animals.

"The wildlife trade is still big business. It's an awful trade," says Stephen Meacher, chairman of the Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (KSPCA).

It was the KSPCA which rescued grumps and boo boo after complaints from a passenger when they flew into Nairobi airport shortly before Christmas.

The woman, says Meacher, was "absolutely horrified" at seeing three terrified infant chimpanzees travelling around a baggage conveyor belt in cramped, wicker-and-plastic fruit baskets.

Ranging in age from an estimated one-and-a-half to four months and each weighing only a few pounds, they suffered from severe dehydration, diarrhoea and acute distress, according to former chimp owners Linda and Mike Garner with whom the orphans were placed.

The smallest also had pneumonia and died 10 days later.

The chimps were confiscated while apparently en route to Cairo from Zaire where, wildlife experts believe, entire families are sometimes wiped out by poachers while protecting their young, often preferred by smugglers because they are easier to transport and train than adults.

"One captured youngster, according to research we've heard of, represents seven or eight dead adults," noted Meacher.

Chimps, found only in Africa, are sought after abroad as pets, for the entertainment industry and for AIDS and other medical research. They can fetch up to \$25,000.

Jane Goodall, a British scientist famous for more than 30 years of work with the primates, notably in Tanzania, charged last November that the illegal trade in chimps was flourishing in Asia, Europe and the United States.

In addition to over-hunting, the spread of human settlements has also taken its toll on chimp populations.

"They are already gone from some of the African countries where they used to roam in plenty. In all other places they are declining very fast," Goodall warned.

The U.S.-based International Primate Protection League (IPPL) estimates there are around 100,000 wild chimpanzees left in Africa.

Wildlife experts point to legislative, administrative and other shortcomings hindering the battle against the wildlife trade.

Trade in wild chimpanzees is banned by the 1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

But the IPPL says there are several ways this can be flouted, including falsifying documentation. Animals can be improperly certified captive-bred, shipped as "personal effects" or even under diplomatic cover.

A 24-year-old Egyptian was fined 1,200 shillings (\$55) under Kenya's standard animal anti-cruelty act for transporting grumps, boo boo and their now dead companion in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering.

"We'd hoped to throw the book at him," said Meacher. But because the chimp is not indigenous to Kenya it is not covered by the country's wildlife act which provides for stiffer penalties.

The convicted carrier said he had bought the chimps for pets. According to Meacher, records at Nairobi airport show it was the second consignment he had arrived with.

Wildlife experts lay at least some of the blame for the illegal trade on airlines which they say infringe cargo regulations laid down by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

When sufficiently recovered, grumps and boo boo will take to the skies again — perhaps blazing a trail where none of their kind have gone so young before.

Preparations are being made for them to join the Chumfunshi wildlife orphanage in northern Zambia, a "semi-rehabilitation" centre in the bush and home to 16 other orphaned chimps.

"I think they are the youngest chimps that anyone has ever attempted this with," says current surrogate mother Linda Garner.

Jane Goodall plans to send an eight-year-old female from Tanzania to the same orphanage where, the centre's owners hope, she will "adopt" grumps and boo boo.

It will be a long time before the two can fend for themselves.

## Education for all Reaching the silent billion

By Dieter Berstecher

More than 900 million illiterate, and some 130 million primary age children who have never seen the inside of a classroom: the statistics show that the right to education remains a mirage for one fifth of the planet's inhabitants, two thirds of them women and young girls. Worse still, the economic crisis has shattered the dazzling progress made in education during the 60s and 70s, particularly in the Third World. Today, basic education is in a slump, both in terms of quality and quantity. International aid is insufficient and badly oriented. To address this dramatic situation, a World Conference on Education for all will be held in Thailand from March 5-9. It's aim: to mobilise the international community to help the worst hit countries get back on their feet and ensure that education for all becomes the rule.

EDUCATIONAL issues rarely make headlines. Thus, the decline of basic education in the developing world, and to a lesser extent in the industrialised countries, over the past decade has tended to be a silent emergency. Entire school systems have stopped growing, the quality and effectiveness of learning is deteriorating, rural schools are closing down in very large numbers and teachers' pay has become irregular.

Why, after an enormous educational expansion during the 1960s and the very early 1970s, did education become the main target for cutbacks in social spending? "Social sector spending is more likely to be under domestic control than, say, debt servicing and is therefore more immediately susceptible to government action," pointed out Keith Lewin of the University of Sussex in a 1986 study for UNESCO.

"Second, as one of the largest segments of social expenditure, it presents itself as having the greatest potential for substantial savings. ... Finally, where short-term planning horizons are dominant, it is those sectors which have long lead times and long-term benefits that appear least attractive."

What is most worrying is that the deterioration has affected the very foundations of the educational pyramid, i.e. primary education and literacy programmes for out-of-school youth and adults. A recent UNESCO study throws light on this disturbing situation.

The number of children entering primary schools is generally

still growing — from 332 million in 1960 to 587 million in 1987 — but in every 5th developing country it is now declining.

In some African countries — by far the most adversely affected region in the world — primary school student numbers declined between 1980 and 1985 by as much as one-third. More than 130 million primary school age children have never attended any formal or non-formal education institution. Of those who do get to school, some 29 per cent, or another 130 million, drop out before completing four years of primary schooling. Thus, as countries struggle with continued high population growth, the goal of universal primary education is moving further beyond their grasp.

### Resources desperately insufficient

This increasing fragility in the demand for basic education is clearly due to the omnipresent decline in the quality of teaching and learning. The UNESCO study shows that in two-thirds of all developing countries, the real cost per primary student has declined since 1980. The share of education in national budgets also has fallen in every other developing country. With resources for education more scarce, textbooks and teaching aids are becoming increasingly rare. Inspection and supervision, especially of rural schools, no longer functions; teachers are often away to gain elsewhere what education authorities no

longer pay them.

What happens to the quality of education when, as occurred in the low income countries between 1975 and 1987, public recurrent expenditures per primary pupil falls from \$44 to \$29, while for high income countries, they rise from \$601 to \$1987?

Impoverished and ineffective primary school systems are the main culprit behind the scourge of illiteracy. If past trends continue, there will still be 942 million illiterates in the year 2000, two thirds of whom will be women. This represents 22 per cent of the world's adult population. Over the years, courageous literacy campaigns and the more patient ground work of adult literacy projects have managed to gradually reduce the illiteracy rate in the developing world. However, absolute numbers have continued to rise. Faced with this image problem, the resources devoted to literacy work with adults are desperately insufficient — in most developing countries not more than 2 per cent of the education budget. The number of those enrolling in such programmes remains insignificant. Drop-out rates are extremely high and the basic literacy skills acquired are often lost soon after.

Unfortunately, this drama of basic education during the 1980s has not provoked an adequate response from the international community. External aid to education during the 1980s has been stagnating. Specialists have estimated that not more than U.S.\$1 per year has been raised for every primary school child in Africa. Moreover, much of the aid has been inappropriate.

Economic recession and the growing burden of debt have no doubt played a major role in the decline of basic education. If policies of economic adjustment are to be carried out without regard to the poorest and most vulnerable, take precedence over the sorely needed investments in education and if education is permitted to lose its credibility along with its quality, then the current imbalances and economic tensions in North-South relationships are



Some 130 million children around the world do not go to primary school, and of those that do make it, some 29 per cent drop out before completing four years of primary education (Photo Unesco).

bound to degenerate into a long-term erosion of human resources. If that were to happen the countries of the South may well be set back in their development by a whole generation or more.

### A turning point

However, not everything is lost. The 1990s, though up against tremendous problems, will also be a time of unprecedented opportunity. The global movement towards peace and democracy, the dramatic reduction of cold war tensions, are creating a more cooperative international climate. There is growing consensus that human development is at the core of any

development crisis; that the mass media, which today can reach the most remote rural dwellings in distant countries, can be a powerful ally of education; that education itself, the empowerment of the people with basic levels of knowledge and skills, is the right of all.

Thus, next March, Thailand will host the most important gathering ever of governments, NGOs, educational scholars and the international community. They come together for a World Conference on Education for All meant to be the curtain raiser for International Literacy Year, and a turning point in the development of basic education.

Its aims will be to forge a global

commitment to provide basic education for all and to mobilise worldwide support and resources for achieving this goal. Behind this world conference stands an impressive alliance of U.N. agencies teaming up with UNESCO, as well as key educational foundations and bilateral donors. What is more, the conference will be the culminating point of a detailed process of consultations in both developing and industrialised countries — based on the recognition that to promote education for all cannot be the prerogative of only a few. The developing countries must be helped to regain the educational momentum they have lost. — UNESCO Sources.

## Folklore enthusiasts preserve Gulf Arabs' past

By Mariam Issa  
Reuters

DOHA — Folklore enthusiasts in Gulf Arab states are trying to save a rich cultural heritage which they fear is vanishing forever beneath the desert sands.

Armed with tape-recorders and cameras, researchers track down dwindling numbers of elderly people who still know the traditional songs, dances and stories of Arabia, a unique society of farmers, traders, pearl-divers and wandering bedouin.

"Nowadays, everything we have comes from outside — the real things will disappear in a short time," said Abdul Rahman Al Mannai, head of the Qatar-based Arab Gulf States Folklore Centre.

"There are not many old people left who remember the past and every year we lose more of them. We are hurrying to collect everything while we can," he told Reuters.

In the past 30 years, oil riches have brought high-rise buildings, expensive cars, Western clothes, disco music and fast-food outlets to Gulf Arab states, riding roughshod over their ancient character.

Projects at the folklore centre include studying the region's oral folk tales, herbal medicine, and the lifestyle of the bedouin, who depended on his camel for food, clothing and transport.

A record of traditional pearl-diver chants has been produced, along with a tape cassette of tambura music, a stringed instrument probably brought to the region by African slaves.

Mannai said the centre, with an annual budget of seven million Qatari rials (\$2 million), was set up in 1983 by the six GCC Cooperation Council (GCC) states and Iraq.

The GCC groups Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman.

Traditional Gulf instruments include the mervas, a small goatskin drum, and the manjur, a wide cloth belt strung with hollow animal hooves which rattle as the player moves his body.

"More than 90 per cent of Gulf music is based on drumming and percussion instruments — it is rich in rhythm," said Bahrain music director Waheed Al Khan.

"Popular music may have taken over but when a group of people get together to celebrate something they start beating makeshift drums and clapping — it's in their blood," he said.

Khan, who is working on a third cassette of music for the centre, said Gulf dance had its own style.

"We do not move like Egyptian belly-dancers... our dance steps are sensual but dignified and slow... like a camel walking across the desert," he said.

Amnah Al Hamdan, a Kuwaiti organising folktales research, said stories told around the Gulf had some recurring themes.

Wealth was presented as life's ultimate goal, the rubing sheikhs always saved his people, and men generally had better qualities than women. A stepmother or second wife was invariably wicked while poor but virtuous people always managed to become rich and happy.

One popular tale was the same as the story of Cinderella, with a fish playing the role of fairy-godmother.

Hamdan said researchers had to take great care about the way they sought information from old men and women, known as Al Rawat or Al Rawiyat (storytellers).

Some made things up because they were lonely and wanted to talk, while others refused to say anything at all. "The old people in our society have lost their traditional function as storytellers and teachers — they have been

replaced by radio and TV which are more entertaining," she said.

"It is our fault they are lonely because we embraced modern life too quickly," she said.

Every GCC state has its own heritage centre and most promote architecture, boat-building, cloth and basket weaving and other traditions.

"In the late seventies almost nothing was left of our culture," said Mohammad Ali

Abdullah, head of the Qatar-based folklore centre's material culture unit.

"Suddenly people became aware of the situation and wanted to do something to preserve their identity. Nowadays people want traditional ornaments around them."

The centre's 60 full-time staff, drawn from all seven member states, have produced around 45 books, magazines, and tape cassettes in Arabic and English.

## Beirut mediation stalled

(Continued from page 1)

main ports and two isolated pockets on the northwestern edge of Beirut.

Aoun's army holds Beirut's southeastern districts, the eastern suburbs and the Metn mountains to the northeast.

Also, stabilise the ceasefire without achieving a political agreement will undercut Aoun's

declared objective that the Lebanese Forces should disband and become a purely political organisation that will not pose a military threat to him.

Geagea adamantly refuses to break up his military force. Shaker Abu Sulaiman, a member of the committee, said the mediators are "the thin thread" that is preventing a new conflagration.

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## Gulf oil countries unlikely to support scrapping quotas

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Gulf Arab oil producers are unlikely to back a Kuwaiti call to scrap OPEC output quotas at a key meeting in March even though some countries are now exceeding them, regional oil analysts say.

They did not believe oil heavyweights Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates — which persistently exceeds its quota — would support Kuwait's suggestion since quotas were still needed to prop up crude prices.

"At some point in the 1990s we may not need OPEC quotas because everyone will be producing at their maximum to meet demand," Gulf International Bank economist Henry Azzam said.

"At the moment everyone is trying to produce enough to meet market demand and keep prices from overshooting but in the next few months seasonal factors will change and world demand lessen — quotas will be needed to back up prices," he told Reuters.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Al-Khalifa Al Sabah said two weeks ago he favored abandoning OPEC's quota system because it was not being honoured and was in any case not needed as prices were above the group's \$18 per barrel benchmark.

If the group's ultimate aim was to maintain prices, then producers with spare capacity could get together and cut back whenever prices fell below \$18, he said.

But the analysts said Saudi Arabia — the only Gulf producer with any excess capacity to speak of — would reject the idea outright because it would force the kingdom back into its old role of "wing producer," adjusting output to suit demand.

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said late in 1987 the kingdom would not let this happen again.

"From Saudi Arabia's point of view, the whole idea of scrapping quotas is a bit premature as it is the only Gulf state with excess capacity," one oil analyst in the kingdom said.

He said it made no sense to do away with quotas until there was no excess capacity left in the world.

The analysts said Iraq would also be strongly against the idea because it wanted higher prices to boost its revenues and develop its untapped fields.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein urged Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to adopt a higher OPEC reference price in messages to their leaders last week, the authoritative Middle East Economic Survey said Monday.

"The Iraqi message conveyed the suggestion that nominal prices should be allowed to rise gradually, at least to reflect inflation... carrying the implication that Gulf producers should observe the necessary production restraint," it said.

OPEC Secretary-General Subroto told Reuters last week the subject of scrapping quotas would be discussed at the group's March 15 market monitoring committee meeting in Vienna.

Oil ministers from Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela form the committee.

Gulf states control two-thirds of the world's known oil reserves and have started to build up output capacity to meet growing world demand.

But analysts say they may have

difficulty meeting costs and Subroto Thursday called for urgent talks to enable investment to go ahead, averting risk of a new oil price shock.

Saudi Arabia has an estimated capacity of 6.5 million barrels per day (b/d) compared with its quota of 5.380 million.

One Gulf industry source said the kingdom had trimmed back output to just below its quota in February from an estimated 5.65 million b/d in January.

"The Saudis cannot talk about scrapping quotas now because they will be sending a message to other OPEC and non-OPEC states that prices must go down — this would destabilise the whole market," one analyst said.

Oil industry sources said Kuwait would be less hurt by fluctuations in crude prices than its Gulf neighbours because it could rely on its overseas retail markets for refined products.

Meanwhile, a report has said that a rising demand for oil could push oil prices up by 50 per cent in the next five years.

The cost of oil could rise from the present average of \$20 a barrel to \$30 a barrel by 1995, oil executives and analysts told the New York Times.

OPEC nations may not be able to pump enough oil to meet the growing call from East Asia and newly independent Eastern European nations, the experts said.

Expectations for increased demand come as output in the United States and the Soviet Union is declining.

"By 1995, it is more than likely that we would have \$30 oil," said Mehdi Varzi, chief of energy research at Kleinwort Benson Securities in London.

## Nikkei plunges 1,569 points, drags yen

TOKYO (AP) — The Tokyo stock exchange's main index suffered its second largest one-day fall Monday, and exchange officials reportedly sought to restrict a form of computer-guided trading seen as a major factor in recent declines.

The 225-share Nikkei stock average plunged 1,569.10 points, or 4.5 per cent, closing at 33,321.87, its lowest level since 33,309.71 last July 5.

Monday's plunge was second only to the 3,836.48 on Oct. 20, 1987. That all of 14.9 per cent, however, still was well below the previous day's 22.6 per cent on Wall Street, on the "Black Monday" that triggered a global crash.

Volume was a light 400 million shares on the first session.

Analysts said stock, bond and yen prices were driving each other down in a vicious cycle.

In an effort to stop the fall in stock prices, the Tokyo stock exchange requested that securities firms limit their index arbitrage selling to the beginning of

the morning and afternoon sessions until March 8, Kyodo News Service reported.

In arbitrage trading, which also was cited as a cause for Wall Street's "Black Monday" crash, investors profit from differences in prices for the same security in different markets, for instance, the spot and future markets. Computers spot the price gaps and guide the trading.

But arbitrageurs, seen by many analysts as the key factor in the Nikkei's 2,570-point loss for all of last week, were not very active Monday as futures prices fell the maximum amount allowed during the morning session.

On the foreign exchange market, the U.S. dollar rose 2.18 yen, closing at 148.65 yen. It opened at 147.50 yen and ranged between 147.42 yen and 149.5 yen. The dollar now has gained 4.13 yen in the last five trading days.

The bond market held firm in Monday's trading. The yield on the benchmark 10-year government bonds closed at 6.875 per cent, down slightly from its 6.98 per cent opening.

At one point Monday, the Nikkei average fell to 32,477.46 points, 2,413.51 beneath its Friday close.

Massimo Umemoto, an analyst for Nomura Securities, said that about an hour before the market's close, some investors began to feel that stock prices were reasonable for purchases again. The index climbed 844.41 points in the last hour.

Because of overall light trading, the few buy orders had a large impact on the index, Umemoto added.

Robert Alan Feldman, an economist for Solomon Brothers Asia Ltd., said such last-minute turnarounds were common on the Tokyo market and did not signify that the market's fall had been stopped.

Johsen Takahashi, director of Mitsubishi Research Institute Inc., said the Tokyo market's problem was "cheap yen, cheap stocks and cheap bonds — the decline of each one has accelerated the decline of the other two."

In a vicious cycle, analysts said, the weakening of the bond market had reduced demand for the yen, whose cheap value reduced the attractiveness of buying stocks.

Takahashi said Japan might be able to stem the stock market's decline by lowering interest rates, but such action was unlikely because it might accelerate the country's already overheating economy.

A rapidly expanding money supply as well as tightening labour markets have led to growing inflation in the country in the last few months.

"Japan's domestic boom has been too good," he said, and this has led to an overvaluation of the yen as well as stock prices.

In Hong Kong, meanwhile, share prices closed lower in thinner trading in response to the Tokyo market's plunge. The Hang Seng index, the market's key indicator of blue chips, lost 21.68 points, or 0.75 per cent, closing at 2,872.63.

A Tokyo foreign exchange analyst for New Japan Securities,

Toru Kanai, said the "vicious cycle" also was disrupting the currency market.

"Stocks are going down in Japan, bonds are going down... (in that situation) the yen can't help but go down," he said.

The Bank of Japan sold an estimated \$1.6 billion in efforts to support the yen. The bank does not comment on its exchange market activities.

Kanai predicted that the yen's decline would stop at the "psychological barrier" of 150 yen to one dollar.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasuhiro Mieno said Monday he was concerned about recent changes in the stock, bond and foreign exchange markets but saw no immediate need for changes in monetary policy.

"We don't change monetary policy only because stock prices moved rapidly or the yen moved rapidly. We base a change in monetary policy on an overall consideration of economic conditions, prices, currency rates, money supply and others," he said.

## Yugoslavia reopens first stock exchange

BELGRADE (AP) — The Belgrade stock exchange, the first of three scheduled to open in communist-ruled Yugoslavia this year, resumed trading Monday after a 49-year break.

"The 50-year gap is huge, we will all be starting and learning everything from scratch," said Branimir Cosic, deputy manager of the new exchange.

Founded by four of Yugoslavia's largest banks, the Belgrade exchange will initially deal only in government bonds, but will soon start trading in stocks issued by private firms, Cosic said. He gave no specific date.

"The Yugoslav Capital Market — Belgrade," is the first of three stock exchanges to be set up in 1990, Cosic said. The other two are to be opened in the northern cities of Zagreb and Ljubljana later this year, but no date has been set, he said in a telephone interview.

The Belgrade exchange, first established in 1886, ceased operation in 1941 when Yugoslavia was occupied by Nazi Germany. When the communists seized power in 1945 they banned all

private ownership of companies, abolished the exchange and nationalised its downtown Belgrade building, which now houses a museum.

The new exchange has been set up in a downtown office building. Last year, Yugoslavia's reformist premier Ante Markovic announced the reopening of the country's money market as part of a package of sweeping changes designed to introduce a Western-style economic system in order to overcome a decade-long economic slump.

Other reforms agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) included provisions for large-scale foreign investments in the economy, free private enterprise and the introduction of East Europe's first convertible currency.

Cosic said advisers from the IMF's International Financial Corporation has provided the expertise needed for starting up the exchange. Yugoslav exchange officials also toured the London and Frankfurt exchanges to familiarise themselves with those operations, he added.

## Czechoslovakia seen having market economy in 3 years

PRAGUE (R) — Czechoslovakia, burdened by four decades of economic mismanagement under communist rule, could move to a Western-style market economy within three years, the country's leading economic specialist has said.

First Deputy Prime Minister Václav Komarek, outlining an economic programme prepared by an expert commission, told a news conference the transformation hinged on vital tax and price reforms, and he predicted big food price rises.

"We can spread the transformation over a brief two to three years, concentrating on tax reform and eliminating subsidies in food production and... taxes on consumer durables," he said.

Under the communists, who were ousted by a wave of popular protest in December, the state poured \$5 billion (\$2.3 billion) a year into subsidising food and farming.

Food prices would rise by 20 to 25 per cent after the reforms, said Komarek, founder of Czechoslovakia's Institute for Economic

Forecasting.

"It's a very demanding programme," he said. The aim was to avoid a "shock therapy" which would lift restraints in one go.

The commission was still discussing whether to build in measures to boost economic growth and to curb inflation.

Figures produced by the former communist administration said Czechoslovakia had inflation of one to two per cent.

Komarek said the programme aimed for an annual economic growth rate of three to six per cent, adding that he expected a jobless rate of up to two per cent in the next three years.

Three draft laws on private and state enterprise and on shareholding companies would shortly go before the government and parliament, and would be passed within the next six months.

"We have to create as quickly as possible a strong competitive environment," Komarek said. "Our companies have been spoiled. They held no responsibility for the quality of their production, nor whether it sold on the market or not."

New markets would have to be opened, both at home and abroad. Foreign currency and stock trading would be started.

Czechoslovakia's new government has said it wants to enter the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and ultimately to make the crown a convertible currency.

Komarek said the planned liberalisation of private ownership would spawn thousands of small and medium sized businesses.

Constitutional changes would be required to allow private enterprise, which could then benefit from competition and foreign investment, Komarek said.

He said that switching to Western-oriented trade from dependence on the sluggish markets of the Soviet-led Comecon trade bloc would not mean giving up valuable trade with Moscow.

Prague would have to review its trade with Moscow as it sought other markets.

## Rayan owners go on trial for fraud in Egyptian court

CAIRO (R) — Owners of one Egypt's biggest Islamic finance companies went on trial Sunday charged with swindling investors out of \$730 million over six years.

The chairman of Rayan Islamic Investment Company, Ahmad Tawfik Abdul Fattah, 33, was brought under heavy guard from prison where he is already serving sentences totalling 33 years on previous fraud convictions.

His 73-year-old father Tawfik and brother Mohammad Tawfik Abdul Fattah are also charged, along with two company employees and eight businessmen accused of helping them funnel millions of dollars out of Egypt.

Two of the businessmen, a Kuwaiti and a Lebanese, are being tried in absentia. All those in court Sunday pleaded not guilty.

The government cracked down

on Egypt's more than 100 Islamic investment houses in 1988 following reports they were operating on an unsound financial basis.

The firms, rejecting fixed interest as un-Islamic, attracted investors by offering annual returns on deposits at least seven per cent higher than bank interest rates.

The government, accusing the companies of using new deposits to pay dividends to old clients, passed legislation requiring them to go public and submit to government scrutiny.

About a dozen such companies were cleared of malpractice and at least six were allowed to continue under the new law. Others are still under investigation.

In November 1988, the government seized assets, cash and documents from Rayan and arrested its owners, saying they failed to abide by the new law.

The charges against the Rayan owners include violating banking and foreign exchange regulations. They are accused of cheating more than 187,000 depositors of about 1.9 billion pounds (\$730 million) between 1982 and 1988.

## Iran to invest \$3.2 billion in petrochemical plants

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has said it planned to build four new petrochemical complexes at a total cost of \$3.2 billion over the next five years.

Tehran radio said \$1 billion had already been invested in a \$1.5 billion petrochemical complex in Arak and \$200 million in a \$250 million plant in Isfahan, both in central Iran.

Another plant in the northeastern province of Khorasan would cost \$450 million and a \$1 billion complex would be built in Tabriz in the northwest.

The radio quoted Ahmad Rahgozar, director of the National Petrochemical Company

(NPC), as saying the national five-year plan set total hard-currency investment for the industry at \$4 billion, more than half of it through foreign credits.

Some 140 billion riyals (\$2 billion at the official exchange rate) in local currency would also be spent to expand the petrochemical industry, he added.

Iran, a major oil producer, has given high priority to developing its relatively small petrochemical industry in the five-year plan finally approved by parliament last month.

The plan allots the industry \$2.2 billion of the total \$27.6 billion of foreign credit it authorises the government to seek to finance major projects.

The NPC will repay its share by delivering about 20 per cent of the products of the new plants to foreign creditors in the first six years of their operation, Rahgozar told Tehran radio, monitored in Cyprus.

He said the NPC had produced more than two million tonnes of petrochemical products since the Iranian year began last March 21, a five-fold increase over the previous year, earning 60 billion riyals (\$860 million).

Iran exported 300,000 tonnes of sulphur and 50,000 tonnes of ammonia in the period, Rahgozar said.

In another area, Iran has said it had awarded contracts to a French and two Japanese firms worth a total of \$345 million to rebuild two oil platforms in the Gulf damaged by Iraqi and U.S. raids during the Iran-Iraq war.

Oil Minister Gholamreza Azghadeh said on Tehran radio that Nippon Steel Company and a subsidiary of Toyo Menka Kaisha Ltd. of Japan would rebuild the Salman platform in the southern Gulf over 21 months for \$300 million.

He said a \$45 million contract

was signed with a French firm to repair the Nasr production platform in Sirri field.

"We are giving top priority to reconstruction of Salman in view of the fact that it produces oil from a joint reservoir with Abu Dhabi," Azghadeh said.

He said three-quarters of the reservoir at Salman, formerly called Sassan, belonged to Iran. The platform was already producing 50,000 b/d after partial repairs by Iranians since the ceasefire in the Gulf war in August 1988, Azghadeh added.

After full repairs, Salman would produce a total of 220,000 b/d of crude oil and Nasr 80,000 b/d, Azghadeh said. These compared with pre-attack outputs of 150,000 and 50,000 b/d, respectively.

Both platforms were repeatedly attacked by the U.S. navy, he said, and Salman was also raided by Iraqi jets.

Salman is located 180 kilometres northwest of Abu Dhabi, and Nasr 220 kilometres southwest of the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas.

Azghadeh said Iran would pay for the contracts by oil produced by each platform after repairs were completed. Payment for Salman would be extended over two years.

The French firm, which originally built Nasr, would complete its repairs in 15 months and also install a new accommodations platform, he said.

The Iranian news agency IRNA had reported last month that Salman was to be rebuilt to a capacity of 150,000 b/d under a \$250 million contract with Nippon Steel.

Meanwhile, Iran has received the 130 billion yen (\$922 million) settlement agreed to by a Japanese conglomerate to end a doomed partnership in a war-damaged petrochemical plant.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, February 26, 1990  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	117.4	118.1
U.S. dollar	670.0	674.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	450.9	453.6
Pound Sterling	1138.2	1145.0	Dutch guilder	352.6	354.7
Deutschmark	397.3	399.7	Swedish crown	109.6	110.3
Swiss franc	452.4	455.1	Italian lira (for 100)	53.8	54.1
			Belgian franc (for 100)	190.9	192.0

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.6667/77	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1980/85	Canadian dollar	
	1.6675/82	Deutschmarks	
	1.8982/92	Dutch guilders	
	1.4810/20	Swiss francs	
	35.12/17	Belgian francs	
	5.7030/80	French francs	
	1246/247	Italian lire	
	148.65/75	Japanese yen	
	6.1095/1145	Swedish crowns	
	6.4980/5030	Norwegian crowns	
	6.4800/50	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	412.80/413.20	U.S. dollars	

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market nosedived after a plunge in Tokyo. The All Ordinaries index dropped 35.4 points, or 2.2 per cent, to close at 1,545.6 in its biggest one-day fall since the "mini crash" of last Oct. 16.

TOKYO — The Nikkei Index plunged 4.5 per cent, or 1,569.10 points, to close at 33,321.87 in its second biggest one-day points drop ever. Some buying in late trading by Japanese brokerages lifted the index off its low for the day.

HONG KONG — The market staged off panicky selling seen in Tokyo and most regional markets. The Hang Seng Index recovered from a low of 2,838 to close at 2,872.63, down 21.68 points or 0.75 per cent.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed sharply weaker across the board but well above morning lows due to bargain-hunting in the afternoon. The Straits Times Industrial Index plummeted 42.41 points, or 2.73 per cent, to 1,506.56.

BOMBAY — Share prices ended lower in cautious trading ahead of Tuesday's elections to eight state assemblies and one special territory, brokers said. The Bombay Stock Exchange Index gained 0.61 to 680.58. The National Index fell 0.62 to 377.85.

FRANKFURT — German shares recovered some of their earlier losses to end just 0.8 per cent below Friday's close as the market continued to assess the impact of Monday's market plunge in Tokyo. The Dax Index closed 13.60 points lower at 1,776.04.

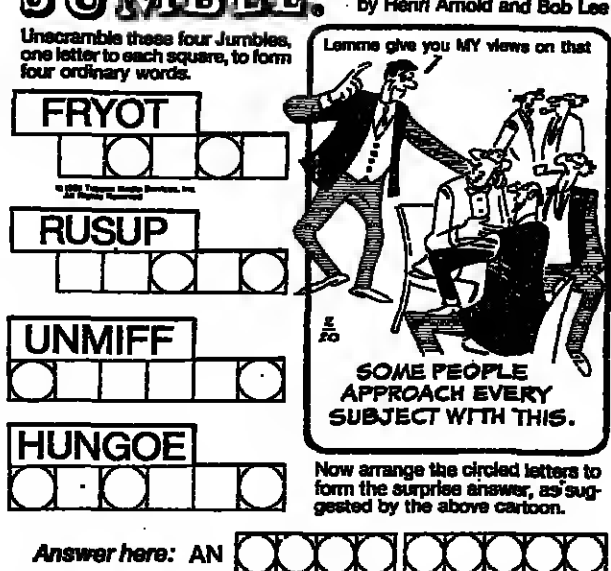
LONDON — Shares moved ahead in late trading, wiping out early losses, reassured by Wall Street's resistance to the second largest ever loss in Tokyo stocks. By 1650 GMT the FTSE index was at session highs, up 12.7 points at 2,249.4.

NEW YORK — A new round of futures-related buying propelled blue chips higher as the U.S. market generally shrugged off Tokyo's second-biggest one-day points drop ever. At 1710 GMT the Dow index was up 20.95 to 2,585.14.

### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Yesterday's Jumble: BATHE TYING DEBTOR ADMIRE  
Answer: What she had when the met that eligible young bachelor — A "BRIDE" IDEA.

Peanuts



Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp





## Real Madrid, AC Milan surge on

Reuters

REAL MADRID and European Cup holders AC Milan look poised to win their respective domestic league titles, the Spaniards for a fifth consecutive season, but their managers are refusing to get carried away with celebrations.

AC Milan underlined their current form with a 4-0 drubbing of Roma in Rome, opening a two-point lead over Napoli with eight games left in the Italian first division.

Napoli, leaders for most of the campaign, slumped to a 3-1 defeat at Internazionale in Milan and looked lost without their inspirational captain Diego Maradona, absent with back pains.

"At one point in the match I looked up [at the electronic scoreboard] and saw: Roma 0

Milan 2. All the fight went out of me," Napoli's inspirational forward Andrei Carniciale said.

But AC Milan's coach Arrigo Sacchi warned against overconfidence. "No talk of titles yet. When you think you've won that's when disasters start," he said.

Roma striker Rudi Voller was injured during his side's humiliation and looks likely to miss West Germany's World Cup warm-up against France Wednesday.

Milan face their midweek Italian Cup final first leg against Juventus in high spirits whereas the Turin side, with Soviet forward Alexander Zavarov injured in training last week, could only manage a 1-1 home draw against Genoa, conceding an own goal by their other Soviet player, defender Sergei Alekukov.

At the first division matches in

Rome, Turin, Milan and Bari fans fought pitched battles outside stadiums resulting in injuries, sections in two cases, and three arrests. Roma may be fined after fans, disgusted with their team's home defeat, lit fires in the stands and hurled bottles into goalmouths.

Real Madrid's John Toshack could be forgiven for celebrating already with Real eight points ahead of their city arch-rivals Atletico after a 5-2 home win over bottom club Rayo Vallecano.

But the manager said: "The

championship isn't won yet. It's a bit closer but we still need 14 points from 11 games."

Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez, whose 64th-minute goal took his tally as the league's top scorer to 28, was convinced Real would be champions again.

"After (Sunday's) results I think we are sure to do it, although mathematically we could still lose," he said.

Atletico dropped two points in a 2-1 loss at Osasuna and Barcelona dropped one when they were held 2-2 by Real Sociedad Saturday.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Look directly into whatever problems face you in your dealing with others and try to eliminate any confusion that are causing misunderstanding and pain. Show consideration.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You now will be in the position to complete some important duties. Discussions with family can be productive of especially beneficial results.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A long-time matter with an understanding friend can now be finished to mutual advantage. An outside partner will bring excellent ideas into your home.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Let an efficient friend help now to get your affairs better organized. Carry through with whatever promises you have made to your own household.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Good friends will be pleased with any services that you now render them. Espiritual persons from a distance in your residence.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Be gentle with a member of your own clan who is greatly disturbed. A more joyous relationship should now exist between you and your attachment.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Put a little more zest and pizzazz into your regular routines. Show the earnest and serious side of your nature to your attachment.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Conditions can be made to

work better at your home now than for a long time. Take your attachment as far away as possible from usual haunts.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Much conversation at home can produce good results for everyone concerned. Listen to understand points your attachment wants you to understand.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) It is a fine day to entertain friends who are available. You can produce results in relationship with your attachment.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Be modern and up-to-date in your approach at your business affairs and your own organizing ability to improve home conditions.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Don't make a property decision before careful and precise study. Irrelevant material and talented persons now into your home.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A trip would be fine now to get away from some dull routines. More emotion shown to your attachment will be greatly appreciated.

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Fluent in written and spoken English. Able to use a telex. Good in typing. And have excellent interpersonal skills, preferably developed in a customer service environment.

C.V.'s must be sent in the first instance to, the General Manager, P.O. Box 927111, Amman, Jordan.

## Navratilova wins Washington title

WASHINGTON (AP) — No matter how far she jumps in the world rankings, Zina Garrison still can't find a way to beat Martina Navratilova.

Navratilova improved her record against Garrison to 27-1 Sunday with a 6-1, 6-0 victory in the finals of the Virginia Slims of Washington tennis tournament.

Navratilova, the world's number two ranked player, showed that there is still a huge gap between her and Garrison, who in the past year has climbed five notches to number four.

"She's a good all-around player. I'm just a little better," Navratilova said. "She doesn't have a weapon to threaten me with, whereas I can threaten her with my serve-and-volley game."

Navratilova's aggressive net play enabled her to frustrate Garrison throughout the 50-minute match. Garrison repeatedly hit the ball wide, deep or into the net in a futile effort to pass the charging Navratilova.

"It's really tight," Garrison said. "It usually happens indoors. I just never know when it's going to happen."

Garrison said she couldn't get any power behind her serve, and it showed. She won only 17 points on her serve, including just 11 of 24 first-serve chances.

Garrison's troubles began immediately when she failed to convert a break point, falling behind 1-0. Garrison built a 40-0 lead in game two, but dropped three straight points to fall to defeat.

Garrison got another game point when Navratilova sent a volley well past the baseline, but a Navratilova passing shot, an unforced error by Garrison and a double fault made it 2-0.

Each player held serve until the sixth game, when, at 30-30, Garrison fell victim to a perfectly placed volley before blasting a forehand too deep in an effort to pass Navratilova at the net.

The second set was more of the same.

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## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF &amp; TAMARA HIRSCH

MAKE DOUBLY SURE

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ A K J  
♥ 7 5 3  
♦ A 3 10 4  
♣ 9 5

**WEST**  
♠ 8 4 2  
♥ A Q J 10 6  
♦ 5 2  
♣ Q 4 3

**EAST**  
♠ 9 7 6 3  
♥ 8 4  
♦ Q 6 3  
♣ Q 7 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ Q 10 5  
♥ K 9 3  
♦ K 9 7  
♣ A K 10 4

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 NT Pass Pass Pass  
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

When you come across a hand in a bridge book, it is usually being used to illustrate a particular point. At the table, however, you often have to combine more than one technique to survive. Consider this hand.

The auction was straightforward. North had a minimum opening bid and South's jump to two no trump showed a balanced 13-15 points.

North was interested in no more than getting to game at the cheapest possible level.

West led the queen of hearts, and the first trick employed by declarer was the bid-up—he allowed West's queen to win the trick. Let's assume that West continues with the jack of hearts. Now declarer must win and, since West is the danger hand, the sure-trick line is for declarer to cash the king of diamonds and run the nine. That's an avoidance play to keep West off lead. East can win the queen of diamonds, but he is out of hearts and declarer makes the rest of the tricks.

At the table, West shifted to a spade at trick two. If declarer plays the same way, when East wins the diamond trick he reverts to a heart, and West can cash four heart tricks to defeat the game two tricks.

This time East is the danger hand, so declarer's avoidance play must be designed to keep that defender off lead. Therefore, declarer wins the spade on the table and runs the eight of diamonds. Even if it loses to West, the contract is still secure. When it wins, declarer sharply opposes the finesse and ends up with 10 tricks.

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## THE Daily Crossword by Frank Hagans

**ACROSS**

- 10 Deadends
- 11 Cooked
- 12 Ratsanjan's land
- 13 To pieces
- 14 Miscellaneous
- 15 Many a soul
- 16 Deviate
- 17 Stan Getz's instrument
- 18 Attic
- 19 Paronomasia
- 20 Valued
- 21 Shortly
- 22 Attack harshly
- 23 Sieve
- 24 Notions
- 25 King of the Franks
- 26 Perjure
- 27 Crust
- 28 Hair
- 29 Social climber?
- 30 Moving toward the middle
- 31 Reports
- 32 Leading sticks
- 33 Cupid
- 34 Fortune
- 35 Uplift
- 36 Cape
- 37 Fuel gas
- 38 Photo devices
- 39 Spuney
- 40 Hold back
- 41 Too bad!
- 42 Made public
- 43 Ebb and flow
- 44 A — a dozen
- 45 Spectacle
- 46 Down
- 47 Political cartoonist
- 48 One's ears
- 49 In debt
- 50 Moore or Ure
- 51 Arm armor
- 52 Horse's heaven
- 53 Petty officer
- 54 Verve
- 55 Forbid
- 56 Also

Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

**ACROSS**

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- 11 Cooked
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- 13 To pieces
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- 52 Horse's heaven
- 53 Petty officer
- 54 Verve
- 55 Forbid
- 56 Also

**DOWN**

- 1 Political cartoonist
- 2 One's ears
- 3 In debt
- 4 Moore or Ure
- 5 Arm armor
- 6 Horse's heaven
- 7 Petty officer
- 8 Verve
- 9 Forbid
- 10 Also
- 11 Beginning
- 12 "Green" Gables' girl
- 13 Desideratum
- 14 Actor Vincent
- 15 Corn bread
- 16 Lubricant
- 17 No Judd
- 18 No Judd
- 19 Get out
- 20 Biblical word
- 21 Speaks incoherently
- 22 Drays
- 23 "Republican" author
- 24 Giant
- 25 Official stamps
- 26 Thick growths of hair
- 27 Dazzling
- 28 Concerned
- 29 One
- 30 Conceit
- 31 Stuff
- 32 Study
- 33 "Opportunity"
- 34 Lawyer
- 35 Balance
- 36 One opposed
- 37 Three
- 38 by Laquer
- 39 Helium

Cinema Tel: 625155

## RAINBOW

## OVER BOARD

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

## CONCORD

Gene Hackman &amp; Danny Glover...

in

BAT 21

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

## PHILADELPHIA

Omar Al Sharif and Murvat Amin in

AL ARAGOUZ

(Arabic)

Performances: 3:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15

Cinema Tel: 675571

## NIIJOM

Omar Al Sharif and Murvat Amin in

AL ARAGOUZ

(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 Friday &amp; Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema Tel: 699238

## PLAZA

BILOXI BLUES

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30



## East German leader gives party last chance for political future

EAST BERLIN (AP) — East German Premier Hans Modrow has given the Communist Party a last chance for political survival by agreeing to run for election, but new accusations have been made against the party leadership.

Although Modrow remains the most popular politician in East Germany, the Communists are expected to fare badly in the March 18 balloting because their forerunners are blamed for leading the nation to the brink of collapse.

The reformist premier announced at a Sunday political rally that he would head the Communist election drive.

The head of what has recently emerged as East Germany's leading political force, Ibrahim Bohme of the leftist Social Democrats, said Modrow is "a good candidate, but unfortunately for the wrong party."

In the latest of accusations against the embattled Communists, a little-known political group calling itself the Independent People's Party (IPP) filed a complaint in the nation's high court alleging that Communist Party leader Gregor Gysi manipulated financial records for 1989, the East German News Agency ADN reported.

The Communists previously controlled most of the nation's wealth, and numerous accusations have been made against the former party leadership for allegedly skimming funds for personal use or mistating the party's wealth to avoid having to turn over some of

the assets.

Gysi took over the party leadership in December and declared it reformed and free of corruption.

The complaint seeks to have Gysi jailed pending investigation, but there was no immediate action taken by judicial authorities on the IPP appeal.

There was also no immediate reaction from the Communist Party.

Modrow has been premier since November, when a new cabinet was seated after the ouster of Erich Honecker and his top lieutenants, most of whom are now under investigation for alleged corruption and misuse of office.

The premier said the decision to run "wasn't easy," but that he couldn't abandon the party he has worked for decades to reform.

All of the major East German parties have rejected inclusion of the Communists in a coalition cabinet to govern after March 18. But Modrow's decision to stand by the embattled party, recently renamed the Party of Democratic Socialism, could draw enough voter support for a parliamentary presence.

More than a dozen different parties and pro-democracy

groups are competing for a share of the 400 parliament seats up for grabs in the elections less than three weeks away.

Opinion polls show the Social Democrats could win more than 50 per cent of the vote. But the rival Christian Democrats may gain strength over the next few weeks as leading West German supporters, including Chancellor Helmut Kohl, campaign on their behalf.

Meanwhile, Kohl has rejected neutrality as a "false solution" for a united Germany, agreeing with U.S. President George Bush that the new nation should be part of NATO.

The Soviet Union, which has more than 300,000 troops in East Germany, has said Germany should be neutral.

Kohl, standing beside Bush at a news conference Sunday capping two days of talks at the presidential retreat in Maryland, said he believed the German people would support remaining part of the Western alliance.

"Neutrality would be a very false solution for us," Kohl said in German through an interpreter. "One thing is clear — a united Germany cannot belong to two different pact systems."

Kohl previously has proposed that what is now West Germany would remain part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation while current East German territory would be neutral.

On Sunday, he reiterated his support for the continuing presence of U.S. military forces in

Germany, but also said half of the Soviet troops could remain in East Germany as part of the Warsaw Pact until negotiations resolve their future.

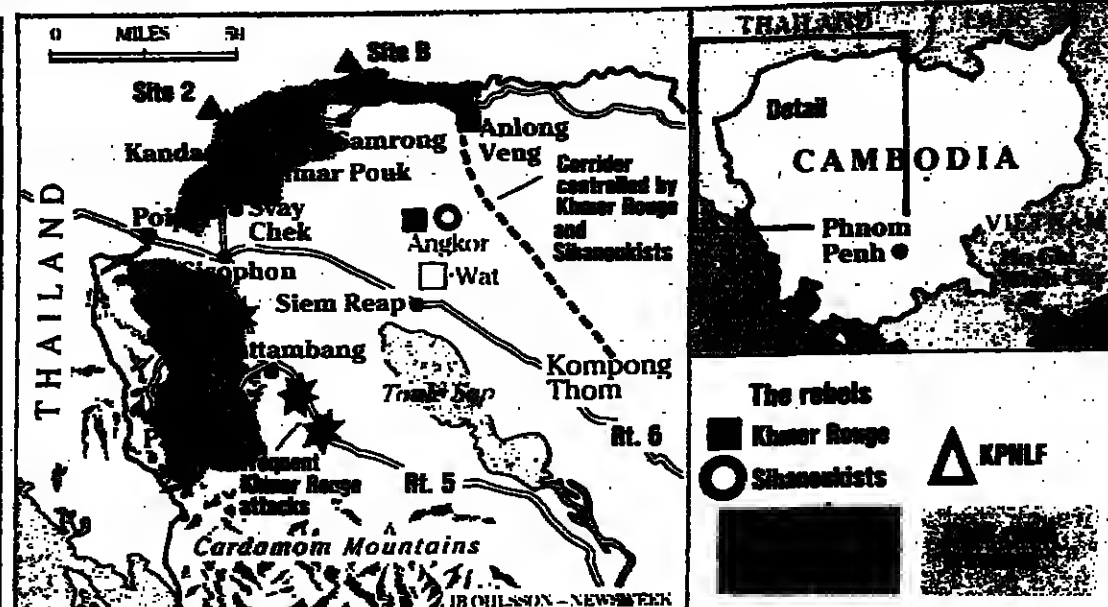
"We share a common belief that a unified Germany should remain a full member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, including participation in its military structure," Bush said.

Bush said he and Kohl agreed that after unification, the territory that is now East Germany should have a special "military status" to protect the interests of the Soviet Union.

Bush also said U.S. troops would remain in West Germany as long as desired by the German people to help guarantee peace and stability.

On another divisive issue concerning reunification, Kohl said he recognizes "the legitimate security interests of all states" in Europe, particularly Poland. There have been fears in Poland — which has twice been overrun by Germany — that a united Germany would seek to regain territory it lost to Poland in the allied-supervised division after World War II.

But Kohl, as he has in the past, stopped short of pledging outright that a unified Germany would give up claims to the region. A final decision on Germany's borders will be "settled definitely by a freely elected all-German government and a freely elected all-German parliament," Kohl said.



## Cambodian civilians suffer most in latest government offensive

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Cambodian civilians bore the brunt of a government offensive Monday after troops using tanks and heavy artillery drove guerrillas from recently-captured areas near the border with Thailand, guerrillas said.

Guerrilla spokesmen said bombardments had killed or wounded hundreds of civilians, and relief officials on the Thai side of the much-crossed frontier prepared for a new stream of refugees.

The guerrillas spoke bitterly about a Chinese cut-off in weapon supplies which they said had left them little chance of hanging on to the slice of northwestern Cambodia they had captured since last September.

The reversal of their own offensive, the biggest advance in the 11-year-old war against the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh, was seen as a political and military blow as they sat down to peace talks in Jakarta this week.

They appealed to the United States and other Western countries which have previously lent support to fill the gap.

The government troops appeared to be massing for an assault on Thmar Pouk, the main KPNLF administration centre, after recapturing Svay Chek and other occupied villages Friday in a drive north from the provincial capital Sisophon.

The KPNLF sources said they were stunned by the ferocity of the offensive, which appeared aimed at boosting the government's

hand in the Jakarta talks.

The tanks, artillery and BM21 multiple rocket launchers caused extensive damage to villages.

"One fleeing villager told me one salvo from a BM21 hit a village near Svay Chek with 60 houses and only six were left standing," a source said.

A bulletin issued by the KPNLF commander-in-chief, General Sak Sutsakhan, said Svay Chek last week was the scene of "atrocities, misery, horror and heartbreak."

Shells and rockets rained down, setting ablaze houses and hitting people and their animals. Those fleeing have little food and no shelter, it said.

The combat situation outside Thmar Pouk was unclear Monday afternoon, the KPNLF sources said.

KPNLF officials blamed Peking for the reversal in their fortunes.

"We did not lose Svay Chek. The Chinese did," said Major General Khun Loem, who led the unsuccessful defence.

The KPNLF is one of three factions in an uneasy guerrilla coalition but is reluctant to co-operate more closely with the most powerful group, the Khmer Rouge, widely reviled for its 1975-79 rule in which more than one million Cambodians are estimated to have died.

"The arms cut is a punishment," said a guerrilla official. "We have been asked many times to co-ordinate military actions with the Khmer Rouge but we

have already told China no.

"We get support from out civilian population who hate the Khmer Rouge. We don't want to lose our civilian support."

Meanwhile, Cambodia's warring factions gathered Monday for talks on ending their 11-year-old conflict, with the Vietnamese-installed government bolstered by battlefield victories against non-Communist guerrillas.

The three days of talks were expected to focus on a possible role for the United Nations in reaching a settlement. With little else on the negotiating table, Asian diplomatic sources said the meeting would be a success only if the U.N. role were approved at least in principle.

A ceremonial opening was planned after the arrival of Foreign Minister Roland Dumas of France, who was to co-host the meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

A 19-nation peace conference in Paris last summer deadlocked largely on the question of how power would be shared by the Hanoi-backed government of Premier Hun Sen and the three-member guerrilla coalition.

Hun Sen has said he would allow the United Nations to organise elections but not administer the country until polling takes place. His government has opposed U.N. participation in past peace efforts because the world body recognises the guerrilla coalition as Cambodia's legitimate government.

## COLUMN

### Rio carnival begins

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Rio de Janeiro's marathon display of tropical glamour — the carnival samba parades — began Sunday night with a cast of nearly 50,000 dancers. The Rio carnival reaches its climax Sunday and Monday nights with the top 16 samba schools parading through the purpose-built "Sambadrome." Many of the dancers live in the slums, but have saved up amid Brazil's worst 20th century economic crisis to take part in the extravagant celebrations. The first samba school to parade through the Sambadrome Sunday night was Camuça, whose planned dances performed to a samba theme entitled "Did I vote for the right President?" Next month, president-elect Fernando Collor de Mello will take office and try to slay the dragon of Brazil's inflation — 73 per cent in February alone. Some carnival purists are speaking out against the emphasis given to the glittering, luxurious displays in Brazil's samba parades. The country's biggest street carnivals take place in the northeastern cities of Recife and Salvador. Sunday's Jornal do Brasil newspaper gave a full page to carnival connoisseur Joseph Dib, who made an appeal for less glitter and more art. "The samba school is basically singing, dance and music. Today no one dances any more, the sambas get weaker and weaker and we won't even talk about the dancing," he said. The hold of gambling bosses on the samba schools has hurt creativity, Dib added. Many foreign tourists, alarmed by the amount of violent crime in Rio, stayed away from the carnival this year. "The publicity given to the violence in the city has made the number of foreigners drop," leading hotelier Luis Tadeu Raja Gabaglia de Toledo told the newspaper O Globo.

### Folk music makes Chinese chicken lay more eggs

HONG KONG (R) — Folk music has turned 30,000 average chicken into some of the happiest, and productive, hens in China. When they listen to Chinese folk music, the hens bob their heads, shake their tail feathers, and lay more eggs, the Peking-owned China News Service (CNS) said Monday. Their owner, who farms near scenic Xiwu Lake in the city of Hangzhou, said he began the experiment two years ago. He's happier too. The extra eggs have so far netted a handsome \$11,000, CNS said.

### Father vows to regain daughter

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — American oral surgeon Eric Foretich vowed in New Zealand Monday to win back his school-girl daughter, who is at the centre of a bitter custody fight with his ex-wife Elizabeth Morgan. But as he arrived to reclaim seven-year-old Hilary Foretich, hidden for almost two years in the town of Christchurch, a local judge gagged the war of words between the parents, fought out before fascinated U.S. media. "I intend to see my daughter and I have every intention of bringing her back home," he told reporters after he arrived from the United States at Auckland airport. But only hours later, he issued a statement saying he would make no further comment until his court battle in New Zealand was over. Morgan spent more than two years in a U.S. jail for refusing to reveal the child's whereabouts. She hid Hilary to keep Foretich from visiting their daughter, saying he had sexually abused her. Foretich vigorously denies the charges.

### Global weather (major world cities)

	TEMP.	WIND	MOON	CLIMATE
AMSTERDAM	10-15	10-15	40	Cloudy
ATHENS	10-15	10-15	40	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	18-21	18-21	40	Clear
BANGKOK	28-30	28-30	40	Clear
Buenos Aires	17-22	17-22	40	Clear
Cairo	10-15	10-15	40	Clear
CHICAGO	-13-08	-13-08	21	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	08-14	08-14	40	Cloudy
DUBLIN	11-17	11-17	40	Clear
Geneva	10-15	10-15	40	Clear
HONG KONG	10-15	10-15	40	Clear
ISTANBUL	08-13	08-13	40	Clear
Jakarta	28-30	28-30	40	Clear
Los Angeles	14-22	14-22	40	Clear
MADRID	07-15	07-15	40	Clear
MECCA	18-21	18-21	40	Clear
MONTREAL	-16-03	-16-03	40	Cloudy
MOSCOW	11-17	11-17	40	Clear
NEW DELHI	28-30	28-30	40	Clear
NEW YORK	14-22	14-22	40	Clear
PARIS	10-15	10-15	40	Clear
ROME	10-15	10-15	40	Clear
STOCKHOLM	08-13	08-13	40	Clear
TOKYO	22-27	22-27	40	Clear
VIENNA	08-13	08-13	40	Clear

M - indicates missing information.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### N. Korea denies developing nuclear arms

TOKYO (AP) — North Korea Monday denied reports that it is trying to develop nuclear weapons, and said its research is devoted to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Pyongyang's official Korea Central News Agency said reports in Japanese and Western media that North Korea was pursuing the development of nuclear weapons were "sheer lies and fabrication." KCNA, monitored in Tokyo, said the reports were an attempt to "decry the non-nuclear policy" of North Korea and to "find a pretext to refuse the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. We are conducting researches into the utilisation of atomic energies for peaceful purposes... (and to) fully meet the growing demand for electric power," the KCNA report said.

#### Duarte laid to rest

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Former Salvadorean President Jose Napoleon Duarte, who led his country during one of the bloodiest guerrilla wars in Central America, was eulogised at his funeral Sunday as a peacemaker. "A man of peace has left us. He fought for democracy like no one else," Costa Rican President and Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias told a congregation packed into the modern Don Rua Church in downtown San Salvador for Duarte's funeral. Duarte, who left office in June 1989 after a five-year term as president during which tens of thousands died in a bloody civil war with leftist guerrillas, died Friday aged 64 following a two-year battle against liver cancer. Washington, Duarte's staunchest supporter during a civil war which continues unabated although the guerrillas declared a two-day truce for the funeral, sent Vice-President Dan Quayle to lead the U.S. delegation at the ceremony.

#### Burma lays down strict campaign rules

BANGKOK (R) — Burma's military government has laid down stringent campaign rules for the country's first elections in 29 years, including regulations requiring parties to obtain permission for meetings. Western diplomats in Rangoon said the rules showed the government's intention of manipulating the May 27 elections in its favour. "This is what one might expect. The whole thing is going to be strictly controlled — local authorities deciding whether meetings can be held, the election commission deciding who gets broadcast time," said one diplomat. The ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), announcing the rules on state radio over the weekend, said they would ensure a "disciplined and orderly" election campaign. Under SLORC Election Campaign Order 3/90, parties will have to apply at least seven days in advance for permission to organise meetings of more than five people and supply details of the place, time, and names and addresses of speakers.

## Mandela to get grand welcome in Zambia

LUSAKA (Agencies) — South African leader Nelson Mandela, who last visited Africa in 1962 as a political fugitive without a passport, will arrive in Zambia Tuesday to a statesman's red carpet welcome.

As diplomats scramble to arrange protocol ceremonies, Mandela and his wife Winnie, instead of dodging South African police and slipping across the frontier, will jet in a special Zambian plane.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, whose capital Lusaka has been the exile headquarters of Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), will host the most important stop of Mandela's second journey out of his native land.

After his release on Feb. 11 from 27 years of a life sentence in South African prisons, Mandela will spend a week meeting the exiled ANC leadership and leaders of the six-nation frontline states group, which Kaunda chairs.

The frontline states bordering South Africa have been under frequent military and economic pressure from Pretoria to deny any kind of support for the ANC, only legalised in South Africa earlier this month.

Diplomats said it was not yet decided whether all the frontline leaders would be present to greet Mandela at Lusaka airport, or would meet him later.

They said Zimbabwe was objecting to Kaunda's airport greeting plan as not in keeping with President Robert Mugabe's usual protocol.

Despite Mandela's actual status as an ordinary citizen, Kaunda, one of Africa's elder statesmen and a veteran anti-apartheid fighter, wants to give his arrival

maximum diplomatic impact.

By contrast, a planned diplomatic trip to Zaire by South African President F.W. de Klerk last Saturday, which was billed as the reformist president's political reward for freeing Mandela, was cancelled.

Among other leaders flying in to meet Mandela are Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad, Canadian Foreign Minister Jow Clark and Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

All three countries are part of a nine-nation Commonwealth of Southern Africa, chaired by Canada. Commonwealth officials said the group would probably meet Mandela Wednesday, though Evans would only be able to arrive Friday.

Mandela will spend most Thursday and Friday with the ANC National Executive Committee, working out their strategy for preliminary talks with the South African government and Mandela's own future role.

After Zambia Mandela is to visit Zimbabwe and Tanzania and then fly at the end of next week to Sweden for a reunion with his oldest and closest ANC comrade, Oliver Tambo.

Tambo, the ANC president, is recovering from a stroke in a Swedish hospital. He and Mandela were law partners in the 1950s before Tambo went abroad to set up the first ANC external mission when the organisation was banned in 1960.

The two men last saw each other on Mandela's six-month African journey in 1962, when they visited Tanzania, Algeria, Ethiopia and a number of other African states, seeking diplomatic and military support to fight apartheid.

## Comaneci was beaten, fingernails torn out by Ceausescu's son, mother says

BUCHAREST (R) — Champion gymnast Nadia Comaneci was repeatedly beaten and had her fingernails torn out during a bizarre five-year relationship with the mephistomaniac son of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, her mother has said.

"I would like to hang him by his tongue and watch him die," said Alexandru Comaneci, whose daughter captivated the world by winning three gold medals and scoring a perfect "10" at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

The mother's candidate for such a gruesome and lingering death, Nicu Comaneci, is now awaiting trial on genocide charges. Beaten and stabbed by his revolutionary captors, Nicu, 39, is considered fortunate to have escaped his parents' fate — execution by firing squad.

Mrs. Comaneci revealed details of the relationship between her daughter and Nicu in an interview with Reuters.

Speaking in Romanian through an interpreter, Mrs. Comaneci said Nicu dominated

her daughter "body and soul" over a five-year period which culminated with Nadia's much-publicised escape from Romania to the United States only weeks before the revolution.

Nadia's ordeal included: — Having her fingernails pulled out during a visit to Nicu's home.

— Receiving repeated blows to her face, body and thighs. Being displayed to Nicu's cronies as his personal property.

— Being expected to visit Nicu on demand at any time of the day or night.

— Having her wages stopped on Nicu's orders so that she would be even more dependent on him.

"Nicu used Nadia as a toy, as a plaything, for his own entertainment. Can you imagine what her life must have been like with that son of a...?" said Mrs. Comaneci.

She said Nicu first became obsessed with Nadia, now 28, when she was the country's leading sports personality in the 1970s.

After Nicolae Ceausescu appointed his son youth minister in 1981, Nicu employed Nadia as a gymnastics coach and choreographer.

"Nadia was soon at Nicu's mercy. After she retired from competitive gymnastics she needed work. She was also short of money because all her earnings had been used by the Ceausescu family."

"He began telephoning her at home and calling on our house in a drunken state. Then he began threatening her."

"Nadia refused his advances repeatedly but eventually was unable to say no."

"Nicu refused to allow her to discuss their relationship with anybody. He didn't allow her to think for herself as a woman or to have any friends."

When Nicu called, Nadia was forced to drive 300 kilometres to the central city of Sibiu, where Nicu was regional Communist Party chief.

"After one of her visits to Sibiu she showed me bruises on her thighs when she came home."

"On another occasion she

came back from visiting Nicu with her fingernails torn out. Nadia told me that this had been caused by an infection because she didn't want me to be upset."

Mrs. Comaneci said that by 1988 Nadia had become withdrawn and miserable. She moved out of the family home and went to live with her brother Adrian.

Nadia's life of terror with Nicu continued until eventually she could bear it no more and made plans to escape, said Mrs. Comaneci.

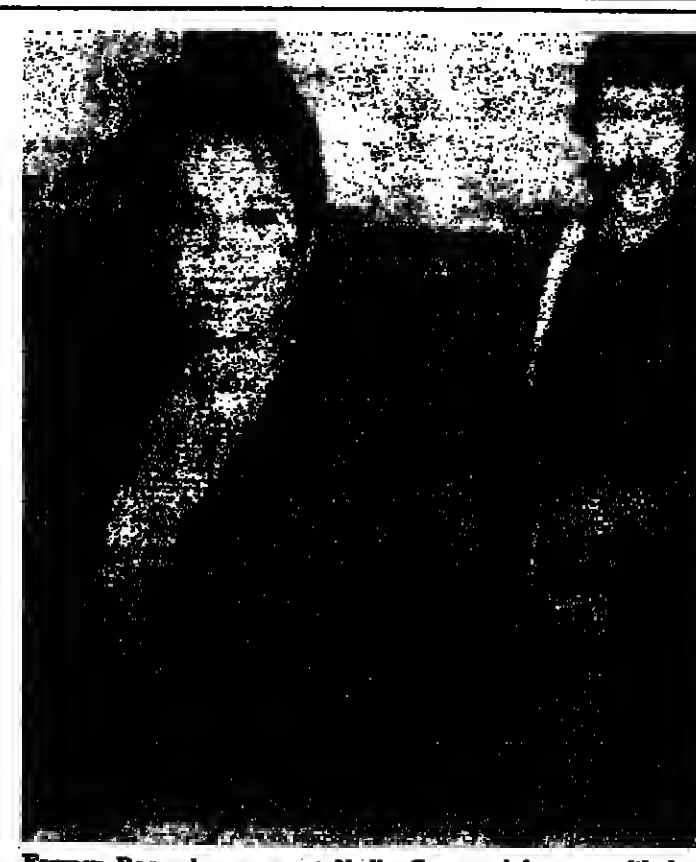
Nadia has telephoned her mother and written several letters in the last few weeks.

"She sounded happy and carefree and said she would like to visit Bucharest soon," said Mrs. Comaneci.

"But she will be scarred mentally and physically for life by her experiences with Nicu."

Asked how she would like to see Nicu punished, Mrs. Comaneci's eyes narrowed as she pondered for a few moments.

"When I think of the ordeals she went through... When I think of her body blue with



Former Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci is seen with her manager Constantine Pasail during a recent visit to Japan.

bruises from head to toe, "I would like him to suffer as she did. I would hang him by his tongue and watch him die... no ordinary death would be good enough for that man."